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Near East & South Asia

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Islamic Affairs

Development Bank Grants Turkish Loan

LD0210184290 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1355 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Jeddah, 2 Oct (SPA)—An agreement was signed today at Islamic Development Bank Headquarters, in Jeddah, granting the Republic of Turkey $2 million to import spare parts.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the Islamic Development Bank by Vice Chairman Fu'ad 'Abdallah al-'Amr and on behalf of Turkey by Ahmet Oguz Dagli, representing the Turkish industrial company (Izmas Ajir Sanai Makinalari). With this agreement, the total figure of the loans granted by the Islamic Development Bank to the Republic of Turkey since June now amounts to $29 million.

Palestinian Affairs

PLO Spokesman Criticizes Thatcher Remarks

JN0210173490 Baghdad INA in English 1650 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Tunis, Oct. 2, INA—Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) strongly criticised insistence of the British Government on protecting the Zionist occupation and its crimes and deprivation of the Palestinian people of their right to self-determination and the right to sovereignty and independence.

A Palestinian official spokesman today assailed statements by British premier Margaret Thatcher in which she had confirmed Britain's insistence on protection of the Zionist entity and support of its plans to annex the Arab territories and maintaining their occupation.

The official spokesman has further said that Thatcher's statements disclose dimensions of the conspiracy against the Palestinian people and the PLO that leads their struggle for getting their legitimate rights adopted by the international legitimacy and resolutions of the United Nations.

He has reiterated the Palestinian people's determination on continuing the struggle till restoration of all Palestinian rights and establishment of the Palestinian state with its capital al-Quds [Jerusalem].

Intifadah Leadership Issues Call No. 62

JN0210182790 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1604 GMT 2 Oct 90

["Text" of Call No. 62 issued by the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah in the occupied Palestinian territories on 1 October—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. No voice rises above the voice of the intifadah. No voice rises above the voice of the people of Palestine, the people of the PLO. Call, call, call—the Palestinian banner, steadfast al-Burayj [camp]—No. 62.

Our valiant masses: At a time when this month—the 35th month of your striking intifadah—coincides with fateful events in our eventful Islamic, Arab, and Palestinian history, the colonialist forces are again conspiring to contain and obliterate the Arab awakening with the help of the rotten regimes in Damascus and Cairo, which are participating with them in implementing the food embargo against the children of Iraq. Within this context, the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah [UNLI] declares its condemnation of these regimes as well as its condemnation of the Security Council members who allowed themselves to be led by the United States in issuing the unjust resolutions against Iraq, and who refused to link the Gulf crisis to that of Palestine. The UNLI highly values the positions taken by Cuba and Jordan toward the Security Council. It praises the popular conference held in Amman in support of Iraq, and calls for the implementation of its decisions and for generalizing such a conference in the Arab homeland.

O sacrificing masses: At this particular time, the savage Israeli occupation exploited the death of a reserve soldier in the al-Burayj camp to implement its schemes, for which it has been awaiting an opportunity to do so. It launched a savage campaign of repression against the camp and its inhabitants, demolishing 32 houses, shops, and garages, and sealing off many others; displacing more than 400 citizens and rendering them homeless; arresting hundreds; pursuing the inhabitants; imposing a curfew on the camp; storming houses barbarically, beating their residents, destroying furniture and television sets, damaging foodstuffs; and spreading an atmosphere of terrorism and panic in the camp within the context of a terrorist plan to liquidate our camps in the steadfast Gaza Strip and again uproot its people. A greeting to our kinfolk in their heroic stand against repression and tyranny, a greeting to the Gazans' hands which are bringing double retaliation on the enemy. The UNLI raises its voice high once again demanding the international community and the consuls of the Western states to condemn these practices, support the defenseless inhabitants, and provide international protection for them. The UNLI also condemns the international position of the Security Council, which is legalizing military intervention in the Gulf but failing to send even a force of fact-finding observers to afford protection to our occupied state. O stone-throwing heroes, O stone-throwing generals: Rush to help your kinfolk in the steadfast Strip and scorch the earth under the feet of the occupiers.

O strike forces, strike arms, and nationalist figures: In pursuance of our policy to impose the control and extend the sovereignty of the comprehensive national authority throughout our independent state, the UNLI reasserts the following:

1. On labor: The UNLI calls on the General Federation of the Trade Unions to expedite the drafting of a national labor pact that defines the terms and sets the regulations concerning workers and nature of work—

such as wages, working hours, and social insurance—in the state of Palestine. It asks all our companies and establishments to abide by these regulations.

2. On companies and establishments: The UNLI calls on the owners of companies and establishments to bear some of the national burden by employing a certain percentage of green-card holders as a temporary measure. The UNLI will watch the implementation of this. It also pays tribute to efforts exerted to survey the qualifications and needs of returnees, and it urges these returnees to cooperate with the national bodies holding this survey.

3. On lawyers: The UNLI calls on practicing lawyers to coordinate among themselves to open offices in the various areas so that families of the detainees can consult them. These offices should be equipped with computers to facilitate data handling. A ceiling on the cost of defending cases related to intifadah and other cases should be set.

4. On education: The UNLI calls on the Higher Student Council to establish and supervise adherence to regulations concerning activity in schoolyards. For example, strangers must be prevented from entering these areas; committees must not use them; slogans must not be written, and demonstrations must not be waged there. Teaching hours and teachers must be respected, and learning and achievement must be encouraged. The UNLI calls on students' parents and school managements to form parents committees so that the families can take their share of the responsibility. On this occasion, the UNLI stresses that it will not adopt the results of the Tawjihi [general high school examination] in the future if cheating becomes epidemic.

5. On farmers: The UNLI praises the UNLI-Nabulus statement that asked farmers to determine the prices and classifications of seeds. It calls on the volunteers committees to contribute to the picking of olives, especially helping the families of detainees in this operation.

6. On the strike forces: The UNLI welcomes the joint statement by the Fatah and Hamas, movements and views it as a step in the right direction. It calls on all members of the strike forces to abide by the statement and by the pledge we made not to shed Palestinian blood by Palestinians and to prevent internecine fighting and use of arms. It also calls on them to form joint security units to protect the masses and hit strongly at any side practicing terrorism and at anyone trying to impose tributes, as falsely happened in the name of the UNLI in the industrial region of Bayt Jala.

The UNLI reaffirms to members of the strike forces that they must refrain from using masks in dealing with the masses, and that they must confine the use of masks to militant activities against the occupation. Let the unified slogans of this month be: Unified National Leadership until Victory, Breaking the Blockade on Iraq Is a National and Pan-Arab Duty, Let Us Entrench Our Unity in Confronting the Imperialist-Zionist Scheme, Our Palestinian Goal Is Independence and Freedom.

7. On the Social Level: The UNLI calls on the social and women's societies to follow up the affairs of the families of martyrs and detainees to see that they are being looked after. They are also called upon to submit proposals on emergency regulations concerning social affairs such as marriage, and specifying a ceiling for dowries to be debated and approved by all competent authorities so that such regulations be turned into a national popular law. The UNLI urges those concerned to abide by the principle of returning the deported families to their houses and to confine the measure of deportation to perpetrators only. In the matter of clothing, while respecting our veiled women, we reject the use of force or terrorism against unveiled women, and insist on safeguarding individual freedoms within a reasonable context without departure from proper public behavior.

O masses of sacrifice, for the sake of independence, the sacred intifadah requires constant interaction with changes. Therefore, and on an experimental basis, the UNLI announces the following:

—It decides that shops are to be opened throughout the day on Fridays and Sundays every other week. Thus, days on which shops are to be opened shall be Sunday, 7 October; Friday, 12 October; Sunday, 21 October; and Friday, 26 October. On this occasion, the UNLI extends congratulations to our Islamic nation on the birthday anniversary of the noble messenger, Muhammad, peace and blessings of God be upon him, which falls on Monday, 1 October.

—The UNLI calls for considering this month as one of family cooperation and visits. Therefore, the UNLI instructs all strike force elements to permit the movement of cars and pedestrians in the evenings of normal days in order to encourage the exchange of visits and going outdoors.

1. [passage indistinct] and to be painted on walls, fixed on vehicles, and printed on cards of good wishes.

2. Strike forces everywhere shall be tasked with waging inflammatory militant days whose nature is to be decided by each strike force in its area in accordance with its speciality. On these days, each strike force shall do its utmost and exert all efforts in a coordinated manner comprising all elements of the UNLI and through coordination with [words indistinct].

3. [words indistinct] shall be considered days for distinguished escalation as a demonstration of solidarity with the residents of al-Burayj [camp] on the anniversary of the massacres to which our people have been subjected, and with the population of Bayt Sahur, which insists on refusing to pay taxes, and which are currently being subjected to a new campaign of repression by the occupation authorities to force them to yield. [passage indistinct]

5. [number as heard] The following days will be general strike days:
—Tuesday, 9 October, on the occasion of the 35th month of the intifadah.
—Sunday, 14 October, to commemorate the anniversary of the martyrs of Qibya, Kafr Qasim, and al-Dawayima.
—Monday, 29 October, on the anniversary of the criminal tripartite aggression and in solidarity with the struggler prisoners of Ansar 3, of whom 74 have been wounded.

O struggling masses: While our steadfast people on this sacred soil are straining under the yoke of the occupation and its brutal onslaught to obliterate the features of the Palestinian personality, our people in the Arab diaspora are being exposed to expulsion at the hands of some Arab governments, as well as to a rancorous media campaign in some Egyptian and Gulf papers. It is as if the Palestinians, and not colonialism, are the criminals in this scheme of invasion, hegemony, and exploitation. Or maybe it is as though this onslaught came as an excuse for these governments to evade their commitments to our Palestinian people and to practice coercion and discrimination against their sons.

We say this loudly, frankly, and with confidence in our principles—the principles of freedom, independence, and self-determination to all peoples: We reject all occupations, regardless of the pretexts. We say to these governments: We are holding fast to this sacred soil. We will stick to our principles, sanctities, and heritage. We will either stand tall, or fall down as martyrs. We may die, but we will not kneel down; we will starve, but will not bow.

O Arabs from the ocean to the Gulf: Here is the battle of dignity and fate. And here stands a Palestinian child watering with his chaste blood what all oil wells and oil money cannot water. Here the new Arab person, the good successors of the good ancestors and honest future, is born and will grow up.

Egypt

Japanese Prime Minister Arrives in Cairo

Met by Sidqi

*NC0210125790 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1139 GMT 2 Oct 90*

[Text] Cairo, 2 Oct (MENA)—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and an accompanying delegation arrived in Cairo at midday today for a brief visit.

Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi led the delegation receiving Kaifu at the airport.

Meets With Sidqi, Other Ministers

*NC0310110190 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1000 GMT 3 Oct 90*

[Text] Official talks between Egypt and Japan opened at the cabinet offices this morning. The Egyptians were led by Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi, while the Japanese were led by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu. The talks dealt with developments in the Middle East, with particular emphasis on the developments in the Gulf, and ways to promote bilateral relations, particularly in the financial and trade domains.

Attending the talks for the Egyptians were Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al- Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning; Dr. 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister for cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development; Economy Minister Dr. Yusri Mustafa; Dr. Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation; Electricity Minister Engineer Mahir Abazah, and Education Minister Dr. Fathi Surur. Members of the delegation accompanying the Japanese prime minister attended the talks for Japan.

Praises Bilateral Relations

*NC0210181690 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1745 GMT 2 Oct 90*

[Text] Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has praised the good relations between Egypt and Japan. He described Egypt as one of the most important countries of the region, with its long history, ancient civilization, and great tradition. He affirmed his country's desire to bolster relations with Egypt, in view of its significant role in the region.

Speaking to the Egyptian television, Kaifu said he will use the opportunity provided by his brief visit to Egypt to review current issues, discuss the future of bilateral relations, and exchange views on various topics.

The Japanese prime minister expressed the hope that his visit to Egypt and his talks will produce positive results.

Meets With Mubarak

*NC0210180090 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1730 GMT 2 Oct 90*

[Text] Cairo, 2 Oct (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak held talks with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu at the presidential office this evening. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi and Dr. 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development.

The talks focused on latest developments in the Gulf situation in light of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and Japan's potential role in the search for a solution, as well as its assistance to the countries affected by the Gulf crisis.

The talks also reviewed cooperation between Egypt and Japan in the various fields as well as Japan's contribution to the Egyptian development plan.

More on Mubarak Meeting

*OW0310015790 Tokyo KYODO in English
0001 GMT 3 Oct 90*

[Text] Cairo, Oct. 2 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak agreed Tuesday on the need to continue economic sanctions against Iraq, Japanese officials said.

Kaifu, in Cairo on the first stop of a five-nation Middle East tour, also offered Egypt a 400 million dollar package to alleviate economic problems stemming from the Persian Gulf crisis, the officials said.

In an hourlong meeting at the Presidential Office, Kaifu and Mubarak strongly criticized Iraq for its August 2 invasion and subsequent annexation of Kuwait. Mubarak told Kaifu he deplored the Iraqi military action, adding that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn had said previously that he would not invade Kuwait. He said strict observation of United Nations economic sanctions against Iraq is essential to avoid a war, the officials said.

Mubarak said there is a lack of unity among Arab nations on how to respond to the crisis. He declined to comment on individual countries.

Kaifu, the first Japanese premier to visit Egypt, will also go to Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Turkey, and Oman. The trip to the region is the first by a leader of a major industrial power since the Iraqi invasion. Terming the invasion and annexation impermissible, Kaifu called for the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait. He also urged the return of the Kuwaiti Amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah and the release of all foreign hostages held since the invasion. Kaifu also praised Egypt's dispatch of 20,000 soldiers to Saudi Arabia, the officials said.

Mubarak rated highly the "clear stance" the Japanese Government has shown over the Middle East crisis, they said.

The 400 million dollars economic assistance to Egypt consists of 300 million dollars in commodity loans and 100 million dollars for the construction of a cement factory. These are part of 2 billion dollars in emergency aid Japan has pledged to the frontline states of Egypt, Turkey, and Jordan.

Japan also pledged another 2 billion dollars to the multinational forces deployed in the Gulf. The commodity loan will carry a 1 percent interest rate and is repayable over 30 years, the officials said.

Egyptian Minister of State for International Cooperation Maurice Makramalla said the Government plans to list up purchases in consultation with the Central Bank of Egypt.

Japanese officials said the money was untied, but could not be used for military procurements or luxury items. In addition to this assistance, Kaifu pledged to offer about 4 billion yen in grants to support a high institute of nursing in Cairo University and for the development of a fishing port in Suez City.

To Meet Ramadan in Jordan 4 Oct

OW0310102690 Tokyo KYODO in English
1019 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, Oct. 3 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will meet Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan on Thursday in Amman, Jordan, to demand the immediate release of foreign hostages held in Iraq and Kuwait, Japanese officials said Wednesday.

It will be the first contact between the leader of a major industrialized democracy and the Iraqi leadership since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2.

In the meeting, Japan will also urge Iraq to accept the United Nations resolution demanding Iraq's unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait, the officials said in a brief announcement.

The high-level meeting was arranged at the request of Iraq, the officials said.

Commander in Saudi Arabia Discusses Deployment

NC0210144690 Cairo MENA in Arabic
0725 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Dispatch by MENA military editor 'Adil 'Abd-al-'Aziz]

[Excerpt] Hafar al-Batin, Saudi Arabia, 2 Oct (MENA)—The Egyptian Third Armored Division has completed its deployment in Hafar al-Batin in northeast Saudi Arabia and taken up defensive positions. Division Commander Brigadier General Yahya Muhammad 'Ulwan has stated that the division's remaining units will arrive in Saudi Arabia on 3 October. He noted that the transport of all the division's units by land, sea, and air will then have been completed in record time.

He added that the division is trained in all combat conditions and explained that the infantry forces' training includes the interception of offensive operations. He said that the joint infantry, artillery, armored, and air defense forces and administrative personnel are cooperating closely.

He affirmed that the Egyptian forces are highly trained for all types of combat and recently completed joint maneuvers with U.S. and British forces in the Bright Star and Sharp Sword [al-Sayf al-Had] exercises.

The Third Division commander said that the division has completed engineering operations at the battleground and is ready for combat at any time. He added that these forces are self-sufficient and will not require reinforcement for a long time.

The commander said he expects the coming battle to be fast and decisive. He noted that the war will be a lightning one in view of the immense technological sophistication of arms and equipment. He explained that Egypt succeeded in using advanced technology in 1973.

MENA's military editor has toured the positions of the Egyptian and other Arab forces in the region and viewed their deployment. He also viewed one of the usual strenuous exercises which the Egyptian forces conduct in the region. He met with numerous Egyptian officers and soldiers.

MENA's military editor reports that the Egyptian forces conducted a military exercise today that included day and night engagements of enemy aircraft using mobile SAM-7 antiaircraft systems that allow for rapid movement and an effective response. He said the exercise also included ways of intercepting tanks and other armored vehicles and the use of vehicles carrying various mobile and stationary missiles. The most important part of the exercise dealt with ways to confront weapons of mass destruction and to intercept any assault by chemical and biological weapons by using warning systems and decontamination equipment.

The joint forces showed a high level of efficiency in eliminating the effects of these materials and in breaching gaps in the assaults.

Brigadier General 'Abd-al-Rahim Muhammad Sayyid, commander of the commando unit in the region, said that his forces are trained to confront such weapons in all conditions. He added that exercises are regularly held two or three times daily in order to maintain a high level of combat efficiency in accordance with the nature of the possible military operations. He noted the similarity of the terrain in Egypt and Saudi Arabia where the exercises are conducted and asserted that all Egyptian weapons are suitable for use in Saudi Arabia.

The MENA military editor conducted several dialogues with Egyptian officers who showed high morale and a full understanding of and faith in their mission. [passage omitted]

Sidqi Confers With Italy's Martelli

NC0210165090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Cairo, 2 Oct (MENA)—Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi this morning received Italian Deputy Prime Minister Claudio Martelli, who is currently visiting Egypt. The meeting was attended by Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr. 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development; Dr. Yusri Mustafa, economy minister; and Dr. Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation. [passage omitted]

Following the meeting, Dr. Sidqi said that the Italian official had come to Egypt to acquaint himself with the situation in the region, to learn Egypt's views on the Gulf crisis, and to gain firsthand knowledge about the losses suffered by the Egyptian economy and the problems arising from the mass exodus of Egyptians from Iraq and Kuwait. [passage omitted]

Dr. Sidqi said that the Italian official raised the idea of establishing safeguards for Mediterranean security within the framework of economic cooperation among the Mediterranean states. Dr. Sidqi added that Italy will call for a meeting of the Mediterranean states to arrive at a formula—similar to the 1975 Helsinki formula—so as to achieve cooperation, avoid the use of force, and guarantee the security of the Mediterranean states. [passage omitted]

Netherlands Defense Minister Arrives

To Visit 'Several Days'

NC0210213690 Cairo MENA in English 2113 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo Oct 2 (MENA)—Netherlands' defence minister arrived tonight here on a several days visit to Egypt during which he will have talks with Lieutenant General Yusuf Sabri Abu-Talib, minister of defence and military production.

The minister was received at Cairo airport by Major-General Mahmud Fu'ad, commander of the central military zone and group of top military ranks.

Departs 3 Oct

NC0310095290 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0612 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, 3 Oct (MENA)—Relus ter Beek, Netherlands minister of national defense, left here early this morning after a brief visit to Egypt that lasted for several hours. The Netherlands minister arrived here last night.

Bahraini Information Minister Arrives

NC0210122490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0934 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Cairo, 2 Oct (MENA)—Bahraini Information Minister Tariq al-Mu'ayyad arrived in Cairo today to visit Egypt for several days. He is accompanied by a large information delegation. [passage omitted]

Yemeni President Telephones Mubarak

NC0210123490 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih telephoned President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning. They discussed the deteriorating situation in the region and the consequences of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. They also reviewed several issues of bilateral interest.

It is noteworthy that Yemen recently voted for a UN Security Council resolution imposing an air blockade on Iraq.

Kuwait Allocates $50 Million for Returnees

JN0210153590 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 26 Sep 90 p 1

[By Jalal Duwaydar]

[Excerpt] AL-AKHBAR has learned that the legitimate Kuwaiti Government has agreed to disperse $500 to each eligible Egyptian worker returning from Kuwait as urgent aid and a temporary contribution toward bearing the burdens of life. $50 million has been allocated for this purpose and transferred to the account of the Egyptian Ministry of Manpower.

Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi instructed Manpower Ministry officials to disburse this aid as soon as possible. The prime minister had earlier received a letter from Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, including delivery notes of the sum of $50 million. [passage omitted]

Ghali Says German Unity To Benefit Third World

NC0210135090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, 2 Oct (MENA)—Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has stated that Egypt welcomes the unity between the two parts of Germany which will be proclaimed on 3 October. He said that this step comes at a significant time. He noted that Egypt hopes that the unity will bolster European capabilities and pointed out that the Europeans have proved over the years that they wish to preserve peace and security based on justice in the world in general and the Middle East in particular.

Ghali added that Egypt expects German unity to promote North-South dialogue and asserted that he is confident that it will contribute positively to the general international trend toward the resolution of disputes and the coordination of efforts for the sake of world prosperity.

He said that the Third World will benefit from this historic step in several ways. He hoped that the German people will proceed with the march of progress and creativity for which they have always been famous.

Mubarak Approves Electoral, Banking Laws

NC0210195690 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1550 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Cairo, 2 Oct (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has issued two new laws, the first of which deals with the number of electoral constituencies and the second with the secrecy of bank accounts. The two laws will be published in the official gazette today so as to take effect.

The law on the People's Assembly's electoral constituencies stipluates that the Arab Republic of Egypt will be divided into 222 electoral constituencies. A list attached to the law defines the boundaries of each constituency. The law takes into consideration the geographical and administrative circumstances of the various constituencies, their population density, and the circumstances of the remote governorates.

The law on the secrecy of bank accounts stipulates that bank accounts and deposits, including numbered accounts without names, will be maintained in secrecy, even after the relationship between the client and the bank ends. The law also prohibits the divulgence of any statement or information regarding these accounts and deposits, except to their owners and their legal agents or except after a final court ruling is issued by the Cairo Court of Appeals, which has jurisdiction over the entire country. [passage omitted]

Libya

Kohl Message Thanks Al-Qadhdhafi for Unity Support

LD0310080890 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
1930 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] [Announcer] The brother leader of the revolution today received the German ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah who handed him a message from German Chancellor Helmut Kohl who will become president of the unified German state.

[Ambassador] (?A message from) Helmut Kohl concerning national unity of (? Germany) It contains (outlines) of the (?German) foreign policy in the future.

I would like to affirm in particular that the crises which exist at present and in the future in the world should be solved. They include undoubtedly the Palestinian issue and the Gulf crisis which sould be solved by peaceful means [words indistinct] within the UN framework.

The federal chancellor affirms in his message that it is possible for the African, Asian, and American states to rely on the solidarity of Germany (? of yesterday) and united (?Germany) with them in the future.

I would like before everything else, to express my thanks to the Great Jamahiriyah and to you personally, because you have always been a supporter of German unity and at a time when the German unity used to appear as if it was not in the real policy framework but a mere figment of the imagination.

We thank you for this and I hope that one day I will (?congratulate) you on (?realizing) Arab unity. The German experiment as you see proved that politics do not know the impossible.

This is the message from my chancellor. [Video shows ambassador reading the message, then handing it over]

[Announcer] The message said in part: On this day when the unification of the German people in peace and freedom takes place and the bitter partition of the Germans comes to an end after the passage of 45 years since the end of the World War II which broke out from German soil and caused great suffering in Europe and the world, the Germans are united today in an exercise of their right to self-determination.

The German chancellor added in his message to the brother leader of the revolution: I would like in the name of the German people to express my thanks to everyone who worked for the right of German self-determination and to everyone who participated in facilitating our way toward realizing unity.

We express our deeply felt appreciation of all this and our awareness of the continuation of German history.

The German chancellor said in his message to the brother leader of the revolution: Our country after restoring its unity aims at serving peace in the world and marching with European unity forward. We know that unity also means shouldering more responsibilities within German society and thus our foreign policy will continue to be built on international solidarity and close cooperation and balancing interests on a peaceful basis.

The German chancellor affirmed in his message to the brother leader that in the future only peace will come forth from German soil. He said that German unity is an integral part of European unity and that we will continue with the same resolution with which we realized our unity, the endeavor to achieve European unity. We are resolved with our partners in the European Community to realize the unified market in 1992.

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl affirmed in his message to the brother leader that disarmament and arms control will remain among the most important bases of Germany's security policy.

He went on: The states of Africa, Asia, and America can in the future count on the solidarity of united Germany with them. These states will not be harmed by what they have done in the way of investments for the benefit of German unity, noting that the Federal German Republic wants to work to make the United Nations capable of assuming its inevitable role in creating a peaceful world and finding solutions to the current overall challenges.

The German chancellor concluded his message to the brother leader of the revolution saying that after restoring German unity with full sovereignty; the Federal Republic of Germany is ready to participate in the future in the measures of the nations for safeguarding peace. He affirmed that his country stands in one rank with all those who are committed to respect for human rights and freedoms and the wellbeing of mankind. He announced that we, the Germans, with the disappearance of the plight of our partition, are ready to cooperate with a new incentive on the basis of confidence with all states and peoples who are taking part with us in these lofty aims for the purpose of arriving at a common peaceful future.

African Interparliamentary Union Condemns U.S.

LD0110223990 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] The work of the 26th session of the Executive Committee of the African Interparliamentary Union ended today. Sixteen Arab and African states took part in the session.

Several recommendations were issued. They include developing trade between African states; improving the potential for developing the African economy through the development of agricultural cooperation; implementing guaranteed food supplies for the countries of the continent; promoting human achievements, exploiting the natural resources of the continent for the benefit of its nations; raising economic standards; drawing up plans and studies to avoid the problem of encroachment of the desert; and safeguarding the independence of the African states.

The sister assistant secretary of the General People's Congress made a speech at the end of the session in which she urged the participants to adhere to and safeguard the possessions of the African continent and to march forward in realizing the aspirations of its nations to deliverance and freedom.

At the end of its work today the Executive Committee of the African Interparliamentary Union called on the United States and the Western states to lift the economic siege which they have been trying to impose on the Great Jamahiriyah. The resolution notes that lifting the economic siege against the Libyan Arab people is necessary to create a suitable atmosphere for effective dialogue to establish equal economic relations between the north and the south.

The resolution of the Executive Committee of the African Interparliamentary Union condemned the continuous U.S. provocations against the Libyan Arab people and affirmed the sovereignty of the Great Jamahiriyah over its air space and its waters in the Gulf of Sidra.

The participants in the work of the 26th session of the Executive Committee of the African Interparliamentary Union visited the ruins of the house of the brother leader of the revolution. They inspected the consequences of the failed, barbarous U.S.-NATO aggression. They wrote a few words in the visitors' book saying: This destruction is a living testimony to the aggressive actions of the United States and its allies. We wonder about the fate of mankind of such barbarous attacks continue. We express our strong condemnation of this tyranical aggression against the soil of the great Jamahiriyah.

Morocco

Hassan Receives Yemeni President's Envoy

LD0310064790 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Hassan II, may God make him victorious, received this evening at the royal palace in Rabat the minister of electricity and water in the Yemeni Republic, Abd al-Wahab Mahmud, envoy of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to his majesty the king, who was accompanied by his country's ambassador in Morocco. [passage omitted]

Sudan

Army Officers Form Anti-Bashir Group

PM0310085090 London AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI in Arabic 28 Sep 90 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Group of Senior Army Officers Announce Establishment of 'I Am Sudan' and Ally With Democratic Grouping To Topple Al-Bashir"—formerly Kuwait AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI]

[Text] London, AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI—A group of Sudanese Army officers have announced their decision to move from clandestine action to open action to restore legitimacy and democracy in Sudan. They called on the officers and troops of the Armed Forces to join an operation code named 'I am Sudan' [Ana al-Sudan] to topple the 'Umar al-Bashir regime backed by the [National] Islamic Front.

In a statement issued after a series of meetings of military personnel and contacts with the political parties within the framework of the Democratic National Grouping comprising the parties and labor and vocational unions, the group said that it would use its legitimate right to remove the Al-Bashir regime from power.

Here are some excerpts from the statement drafted by, among others, Lieutenant General 'Abd-al-Rahman Sa'id, chief of staff for operations, and Brigadier al-Hadi Bashri, acting director general until 30 June 1989:

In the name of God the merciful the compassionate

"And inclined not to those who do wrong, or the fire will seize you; and ye have no protectors other than God, nor shall ye be helped." [Koranic verse]

From the Military Command of the Sudanese Armed Forces to all commands, branches of the General Command, corps, units, military zones, Armed Forces training centers, police and security officers, prison governors, coast guards, and fire brigades:

Brother commanders, officers, noncommissioned officers, and soldiers in the active and reserve forces and in the other regular armed forces: As a command, our policy has always been to talk to you very sincerely and clearly and to keep our promise in every word we say to you.

Today, by addressing this message to you at this time, which is the most dangerous time that Sudan has ever experienced in its history, we are actually performing a duty stipulated by the constitution. And we seek nothing from you except that you support the truth and defend legitimacy.

In the period following the uprising [April 1985) the military command's concern was to safeguard the Armed Forces' cohesion, unity, and pan-Arabism and to make leaders at all levels aware of the threats surrounding Sudan's security and national unity, of the risks of military coups and their subsequent sinister results, and of the danger of party infiltration into the Armed Forces. Any bias should always be toward the people in order to protect the democratic option which they have chosen as a system and to defend the Constitution so that the Armed Forces can concentrate on performing their principal duties and develop their efficiency.

Because during the period before the Armed Forces' February 1989 memorandum the country was seeking a high level of solidarity and cohesion in order to confront challenges, the military command decided to affirm its position in accordance with the stipulations of the Constitution and the National Charter and to draw the government's and the people's attention to the critical conditions, pointing out that Sudanese national security would be exposed to real threats if all the national forces did not promptly close ranks to intercept the adventurers, conspirators, and seekers of power and domination.

But the National Islamic Front was alarmed by that national and civilized approach in our Armed Forces. So it promptly hatched the 30 June 1989 coup, through treachery, treason, deception, and bribery.

Brothers: The criminal scheme aims to strip the Armed Forces of all their qualified commands and to replace them by the Islamic Front's militias and those loyal to it.

Brothers: The same criminal scheme aims to eliminate the Armed Forces' pan-Arab role on the both the Arab and Islamic scenes and push them into ideological and regional ambitions. This has emerged clearly in the opportunist position on the Gulf crisis.

The regime refrained in an unprecedented way from condemning the Iraqi invasion of the sister State of Kuwait and demanding its immediate withdrawal and the restoration of legitimacy.

The regime also shamefully omitted to go to Saudi Arabia's aid to share with its forces and the Arab and Islamic forces the honor of defending the holy places and the Gulf states threatened by the Iraqi aggression—which conflicts with all Sudan's policies since independence.

The Sudanese people and their Army firmly support Arab rights, international legitimacy, solidarity, and peace. The Sudanese Armed Forces have a glorious history of defending truth and peace in the Arab world and Africa, including at the international level.

We pray to Almighty God to help us all and to guide our steps toward good, justice, truth, and the right way and to grant us victory over our enemy. He is the best protection and the best help. "Ye who believe, fear God as he should be feared, and die not except in a state of Islam." [Koranic verse]

[Signed] The legitimate military command of the Sudanese Armed Forces,

General Fathi Ahmad 'Ali, general commander of the Sudanese Armed Forces.

Bahrain

Amir Receives Qabus Message on GCC Summit

JN0210081790 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0735 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Manama, 1 Oct (WAKH)—Mr. Sayf Bin-Hamad Bin Sa'ud, Omani minister of the Sultani Court Diwan, and his delegation left Manama this morning for Doha after a one-day visit to Bahrain as part of a tour of Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] states.

WAKH carries a statement made by the Omani envoy prior to his departure in which he said he had conveyed an oral message to Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman Al Khalifah from His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman dealing with fraternal relations and current developments in the region.

He said that the message comes within the framework of contacts between the leaders of the GCC states.

He said in his statement that there was an agreement to hold an emergency GCC summit to examine the situation in the region after the Iraqi invasion of fraternal Kuwait. He explained that the GCC secretariat postponed this call until Kuwaiti Amir His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah had returned from his visit to the United States and Soviet Union, and the secretariat had been given the chance to view the results of these two visits. In light of that, a decision will be taken on whether to convene the extraordinary meeting of GCC heads of state.

Concluding his statement, he said that no venue has yet been agreed for holding the GCC summit. He added that His Majesty Sultan Qabus will participate in any Gulf summit held in any GCC state.

Crown Prince Pledges Support for Saudi Arabia

LD0210203290 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Excerpt] His Highness Shaykh Hamad Ibn 'Isa Al Khalifa, crown prince and commander in chief of the Bahraini Defense Force, has said that orders were issued to the Bahrain Defense Force at the very beginning of the crisis to use their available potential in order to play the role that embodies the depth of fraternal relations between Bahrain and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Inspecting the Bahraini Defense Force today, his highness said that this measure is borne out of the historic relations between the GCC member states and the charter of the GCC, which says that any aggression against a member is an aggression against all the other member states. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Consults With Officials at UN

UK's Hurd

JN2909102290 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0550 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] New York, 28 Sep (WAKH)—Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak Al Khalifah met with Douglas Hurd, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, in New York tonight.

Shaykh Muhammad Al Khalifah discussed Bahraini-British relations and bilateral cooperation in all fields with the British secretary. They also reviewed the serious situation in the Gulf resulting from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the regional and international efforts to end the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, reinstate legitimacy as represented by Kuwaiti Amir His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, and fully and strictly implement UN Security Council resolutions on the economic embargo on Iraq.

The two sides reviewed several issues listed on the agenda of the UN General Assembly's 45th session.

Turkish Counterpart

JN2909101390 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] United Nations, 28 Sep (WAKH)—Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak Al Khalifah met with Turkish Foreign Minister Ali Bozer in New York today.

They reviewed bilateral relations and means to strengthen them in various fields. They also reviewed the serious developments in the Gulf in light of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and its repercussions on the region's states and the entire world. The two ministers discussed several international issues listed on the agenda of the current UN session, foremost being the UN resolutions on the economic embargo on Iraq which aims at forcing Iraq to withdraw its invasion forces from Kuwait and reinstating legitimacy as represented in Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Kuwait

Amir Notes Unanimity Against Iraqi Aggression

LD0210203490 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] His highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait, chairman of the fifth session of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], has explained that the vicious Iraqi invasion of the State of Kuwait destroyed all the aspirations and hopes of the Islamic nation toward a radiant future and Islamic solidarity.

In his address at the opening of the annual coordination meeting of the foreign ministers of the ICO member states, on the sidelines of the meetings of the current session of UN General Assembly, the amir said that these hopes were destroyed by surprise of the evil tendencies of the Iraqi regime whose forces invaded peaceful and quiet Kuwait.

His highness denied the allegations made by the Iraqi regime in an attempt to cover its crime. He said: The claims of the Iraqi regime were given the lie when it failed to find a single Kuwaiti who would agree to deal with it. His highness pointed out the attempt of the Iraqi regime to resort to the Islamic religion in order to get out of its crisis. He said: The Iraqi regime, which is today bragging about carrying the banner of Islam and Jihad, is remote from this.

His highness the amir of Kuwait lauded the sincere Islamic stand against the vicious Iraqi aggression against the State of Kuwait. He said: The Islamic states have stood on the side of right, a stand that deserves gratitude and appreciation. He pointed to the international unanimity on the need to put an end to the Iraqi occupation of the Kuwaiti territories. He described this unanimity as unprecedented, in addition to the fact that it affirmed the right of the Kuwaiti people to its usurped land. His highness said further: We do not accept less than the full implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions which affirm the need for the complete withdrawal of the Iraqi forces and the return of legitimacy to the country.

His highness added that despite the repeated calls for peace, the Iraqi regime continues in its erring ways in order to carry out its criminal plan in Kuwait, and this regime is determined to drag the region into a war where Iraq will be the first loser. He expressed the conviction that victory will be on the side of right and that Kuwait will return to its sons, God willing.

London Paper Interviews Finance Minister

PM0210155790 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 28 Sep 90 p 5

[Interview with Kuwaiti Finance Minister Shaykh 'Ali Khalifa al-Adhbi al-Sabah by Huda al-Husayni; place, date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Husayni] In your view, how great have Kuwait's losses been since Iraq occupied Kuwait?

[Al-Sabah] It is difficult to determine that. However, since the first day of the invasion the objective of the invading Iraqi Army and mercenaries has been to destroy anything they cannot move to Baghdad. The reason behind that method is that the Iraqi leaders do not want Iraqis to see the huge contrast between the living standard in Kuwait and that in Iraq. The Iraqi soldiers themselves said when they saw conditions in Kuwait on the first day of the invasion: "Where is our income from Iraqi oil?" Saddam Husayn does not want his regime to be seen as a failure. Over the 60 days which have elapsed since the invasion, they have taken or destroyed everything in Kuwait.

[Al-Husayni] Is it possible to know the value of the gold which they took from the Central Bank and the sums of money they took from the other banks?

[Al-Sabah] In fact the cash kept by any bank is limited. And any bank which does receive deposits does not tend to keep huge sums of money. The sums of foreign currency which the Iraqis took are very limited. The sums of local currency taken are also limited.

The numbers of the Kuwaiti dinars are known to us, and the Iraqis' ability to dispose of them is limited. We are not concerned about that. Anyhow, when we return, we will replace the currency, and the sums which they took can then remain with them for decoration. As for the gold, its quantity is limited too. No country puts all its gold reserves in the central bank. The value of the quantity which was there amounted to about $300-350 million, and their ability to dispose of it is limited. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Some people say that the crisis could last a year or two?

[Al-Sabah] That is doubtful. The world will not give Saddam Husayn that opportunity. He has the option of responding to implementing UN resolutions to the letter. This is in addition to an unconditional, complete withdrawal and the restoration of legitimacy. Otherwise, the noose will be tightened around him until other solutions prevail.

[Al-Husayni] Military?

[Al-Sabah] There is no reason to talk about them.

[Al-Husayni] How much are you spending daily on the Kuwaiti citizens you are helping?

[Al-Sabah] Whatever the sums, they are for the sons of that good land. And, thank God, we can perform part of our duty toward them. And above all, that reserve is theirs and is being utilized to achieve their repatriation to their country as soon as possible. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] It was noted that President George Bush said in his address to Congress that he was for the return of "a legitimate government." He did not say the legitimate government.

[Al-Sabah] He said the legitimate government. I think that President Bush has been clear in that regard on more than one occasion. And UN resolutions on that question are crystal clear. We should not be discussing how to split hairs.

[Al-Husayni] It was said that when Iraq requested a $10-billion loan from Kuwait, the reply was that you were able to provide only a few hundred millions. Is that true?

[Al-Sabah] First, we in Kuwait are not obliged to finance Iraq, regardless of its plans and projects. You must remember that Iraq with its huge revenues can look after its people and rebuild the country. And if there is a surplus of money in Kuwait, undoubtedly there are Arab states that are in greater need of aid, as they do not produce 3.5 million barrels of oil a day like Iraq. As for Iraq's request for imaginary sums and the suggestion that it was shocked when those unreal demands were not met, that remains its own problem, not the problem of the Gulf Cooperation Council states. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Through their information minister and the Revolution Command Council [RCC] the Iraqis insist that they will stay in Kuwait forever and will not move out. What is your comment?

[Al-Sabah] First, the claim "the Iraqis through their information minister" gives the impression that the regime in Iraq reflects Iraqis' opinion. In fact when you came in I was speaking on the telephone with some Iraqi brothers, who told me about the anger among intellectuals in Baghdad at what has happened. We all know how many Iraqis are living in exile, whether an official exile or an escape from dictatorship there. We all know how dissatisfied the majority is with the regime. As for those living inside the country, they are helpless, and those living abroad have little influence. So the Iraqi information minister's statement does not reflect the view of Iraqis inside or outside the country.

That is one point. The other point is that the world is not going to respond to the Iraqi RCC's decisions. This reminds me of their UN representative when he told the Security Council: The RCC has decided so and so, and a permanent representative replied: The RCC decides for Baghdad, not for the world.

Therefore the RCC's decisions are confined to Iraq; that is all.

[Al-Husayni] So they will withdraw?

[Al-Sabah] Yes, voluntarily or forcibly.

[Al-Husayni] Even if they do withdraw, Kuwait will still be in danger?

[Al-Sabah] Undoubtedly yes, if new arrangements are not made. The danger will loom over not only Kuwait but all the states in the region. The Iraqi regime over the past 10 years has threatened one state after another. And to judge by the armament method that it pursued it wanted to threaten the world as a whole. So without doubt it is the responsibility of the world as a whole to bring about security arrangements that guarantee peace for all the states in the region. And I think it is premature to talk about them now. But neither Kuwait nor the other Gulf states will accept that Iraq should withdraw from Kuwait only to threaten tomorrow the Kingdom [of Saudi Arabia], the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar, Syria, Turkey, or Jordan.

[Al-Husayni] Some U.S. officials said recently: Let the Iraqis withdraw from Kuwait and then negotiation can be held over their claims against Kuwait.

[Al-Sabah] First, they have no claims against Kuwait. The borders are drawn in accordance with international agreements which are not subject to discussion. We have claims against them, not vice versa. And as a result of the invasion our demands will be double what they were in the past, because of the destruction and ruin inflicted on Kuwait. The problem is not to do with negotiation over their demands from Kuwait, but, rather, Kuwait's demands from them, whether with regard to damages or anything else. [passage omitted]

Oman

Minister Addresses UN General Assembly 27 Sep

JN2809155090 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Excerpt] His Excellency Yusuf Bin-al-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, has said that the Sultanate's foreign policy determined by His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id, God bless him, always adheres to the principles and objectives of the UN Charter and the international and regional treaties signed by the Sultanate.

His excellency added that one of the most important principles of Omani policy, which [words indistinct] his majesty since the beginning of the modern age here on 23 July 1970 [date of Sultan Qabus' accession] is to work to reinforce relations of friendship with all nations without discrimination and to seek forming relations with them based on mutual respect for sovereignty, independence, noninterference in the internal affairs of others, and solving disputes between nations through dialogue and peaceful means.

In the Sultanate's speech delivered last night before the UN General Assembly's 45th session, his excellency the minister of state for foreign affairs said that the invasion of a neighboring country and its annexation by force is a dangerous precedent, an event the like of which the international community has not seen since the establishment of the United Nations. He pointed out that the establishment of this organization and the goals and principles stipulated by the UN Charter were designed to prevent such precedents.

His excellency added that what Iraq has done must be considered a flagrant violation of all the principles of this organization. This behavior is not accepted by international law.

His excellency the minister of state for foreign affairs said in his speech that the Sultanate condemned that invasion and occupation, as did the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Arab League Foreign Ministers' Council, the meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization's foreign ministers, the emergency Arab summit, and the UN Security Council.

His excellency praised the wise international positions that came about as a result of the Security Council resolutions and the international community's response and full support for them. He welcomed the positive role of the fraternal and friendly countries that have responded to the legitimate call by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia for self-defense. He said that this response undoubtedly expresses the readiness of the international community to maintain peace and defend the legitimate interests of countries, especially small countries.

Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah expressed his regret over Iraq's unresponsiveness to the resolutions of the Arab League, the Islamic Conference Organization, and the UN Security Council, which call for full withdrawal from Kuwaiti territories and restoration of the legitimate government.

He said: We hope Iraq will respond to all this so that the people of Iraq will once again enjoy the blessings of peace and stability and the country will exploit its huge human and natural resources in construction and development and play its positive role in the Arab world and the international community.

Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah called on the international community to work toward solving the Middle East's problems, foremost of which is the Palestine question. He said: We support all international efforts to find a just and peaceful solution to the Palestinian people's cause.

He added that Israel's occupation of some parts of Lebanese territory is the first obstacle preventing this country from regaining its unity, security, and stability. His excellency reaffirmed the Sultanate's solidarity with Lebanon in its efforts to bring about national reconciliation so that it can regain its sovereignty and regional unity. [passage omitted]

Minister on Gulf Solution, Meetings in New York

NC2909192190 Muscat Oman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] His Highness Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs and chairman of the current session of the ministerial council of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC], has expressed his belief that the political efforts to settle the Gulf crisis have not started yet. The next few weeks will determine whether it is possible to solve the crisis by diplomatic and political means.

In a statement to the OMANI NEWS AGENCY in New York, where he is attending the 45th UN General Assembly session, his highness added that the effect of the economic embargo against Iraq has not yet reached the point where it will be necessary to undertake diplomatic efforts to settle the crisis. He explained that efforts to settle the crisis by diplomatic means will begin when the Security Council resolutions begin producing some results.

Regarding the efforts of the EC and the GCC states to reach agreement on a free market between the two groups, his highness said that this subject is on the agenda and official negotiations will open this week. His highness noted that the European side is attaching great importance to these negotiations with a view to concluding a free trade agreement.

Asked about the meeting of the GCC foreign ministers with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker yesterday, his highness the minister of state for foreign affairs said that the Gulf crisis was the subject of discussion. This meeting took place to discuss the results of the crisis, particularly with regard to the states which have suffered as a result of this crisis and how can they be helped. His highness also pointed out that the two sides exchanged views on issues of common interest to the GCC states and the United States.

Regarding the meeting of the GCC foreign ministers with the Japanese foreign minister, which was held yesterday on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly meetings, his highness explained that this meeting was held at the request of the GCC states to explain the dimensions of the Gulf crisis. He noted that Japan believes that implementation of the Security Council resolutions is fundamental. Japan has declared its support for the international effort, particularly the multinational forces in the Gulf, he said.

Petroleum Undersecretary Meets Romanian Minister

JN3009130390 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0930 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Doha, 30 Sep (WAKH)—Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari undersecretary of the Finance and Petroleum Ministry, met in Doha today with Romulus Neagu, Romanian minister of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the accompanying delegation, who is currently visiting Qatar within a tour of some countries in the region.

The QATARI NEWS AGENCY said they exchanged views on international energy affairs and the impact of the current developments on the oil market. They also discussed bilateral cooperation in the area of oil and gas and ways to enhance this cooperation in the future.

Pakistani Admiral, Military Officials Hold Talks

NC0210173690 Muscat Sultanate of Oman Television Network in English 1600 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] His Excellency Sayf Bin-Hamad al-Bitashi, the secretary general of the Ministry of Defense, today received His Excellency Vice Admiral Mansur al-Haqq, the director general of Pakistan's Armed Forces training establishment, and the accompanying military delegation currently visiting the Sultanate. Later His Excellency Vice Admiral Mansur al-Haqq was also received by His Excellency Lieutenant General Hamad Bin-Sa'id al-'Awfi, the chief of staff of the sultan's Armed Forces. Cordial talks were exchanged and issues of mutual interest were discussed during the two meetings. Both meetings were attended by Air Commodore Yahya Bin-Rashid al-Jummah, the assistant chief of staff for administration.

Consultative Council President Departs for Moscow

NC0210173090 Muscat Sultanate of Oman Television Network in English 1600 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Excerpt] His Excellency Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin-'Ali al-Qutaybi, the president of the State's Consultative Council, left Muscat today for Moscow at the head a delegation on a visit to the Soviet Union lasting several days.

In a predeparture statement, his excellency told OMAN NEWS AGENCY that the visit will provide an opportunity for him and the accompanying delegation to get acquainted with the Soviet leaders' point of view concerning relations between the two councils as well as on the latest regional and international developments.

The delegation accompanying his excellency the president of the State's Consultative Council included the Council's secretary general, Ahmad Bin-al-Nabhani, and a number of the council's members. [passage omitted]

Qabus Receives Cossiga, Thatcher Letters

JN0210083190 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1830 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Salalah, 1 Oct (WAKH)—His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman today received a written message from Italian President Francesco Cossiga.

The message was delivered by Italian Defense Minister Virginio Rognoni, who left Salalah later today. The Sultan also received a written message from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. The message was delivered by the British ambassador in Muscat.

Qatar

Oil Minister Confers With European Delegation

JN2509201590 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1035 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Doha, 25 Sep (WAKH)—Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari Finance and Oil Ministry under secretary, met here today with the European parliamentarian delegation led by Andrea Bonetti currently visiting Doha as part of a tour in the region.

During the meeting they discussed aspects of Gulf-European cooperation in the fields of energy and petrochemicals. They also exchanged views on the world oil conditions amid the current developments.

Moreover, they discussed cooperation in the fields of oil and gas between Qatar and the European Community and means to strengthen it as well as the importance of using advanced technology in future Qatari projects.

Romanian Minister Arrives in Doha on Visit

JN2709173790 Manama WAKH in English 1550 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Doha, Sept. 27 (GNA)—Romanian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Romulus Neagu arrived here today on a three-day visit to Qatar as part of a tour of the region.

The Romanian official was received on arrival by Qatari Minister of Communication and Transport 'Abdallah Salih al-Mani', the Foreign Undersecretary Ahmad Abdallah al-Mahmud, and Director of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Minsitry ambassador Ahmad Jasim al-Mulla.

Confers With Trade Minister

JN2909140490 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Doha, 29 Sep (WAKH)—Shaykh Hamad Bin-Jasim Al Thani, minister of trade and economy, met here today with Romulus Neagu, Romanian minister of state for foreign affairs, who is currently visiting Qatar as part of a tour of the region.

They discussed bilateral relations and means to strengthen and develop them especially with regard to economy and trade.

Delivers Message to Amir

JN2909192990 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1230 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Doha, 29 Sep (INA)—His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from Romanian President Ion Iliescu. The message was conveyed by Romulus Neagu, Romanian minister of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who was received by his highness the Qatari amir this morning.

The QATARI NEWS AGENCY said the message deals with Romania's position on the Gulf crisis that resulted from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and which Romania condemned from the beginning. The message also affirms that Romania completely adheres to the UN Security Council resolutions on the crisis.

The message also touches on ways to promote friendly and cooperation relations between Qatar and Romania.

Meets With Minister

JN2909153190 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1230 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Doha, 29 Sep (WAKH)—Ahmad Muhammad al-Subay'i, Qatar's minister of industry and public works, received today Romulus Neagu, Romania's minister of state at the Foreign Ministry, now visiting on a regional tour.

They discussed how to reinforce bilateral friendship and cooperation, particularly in the areas of industry and public works.

Minister Talks to John Kelly, Canada's Clark

JN2909102690 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] United Nations, 29 Sep (WAKH)—Qatari Foreign Minister Mubarak Bin-'Ali al-Khatir met with John Kelly, assistant U.S. secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, in New York last night. They discussed developments in the Gulf crisis resulting from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

The Qatari foreign minister also met with John Clark, Canada's secretary of state for external affairs. They discussed the situation in the Gulf and the Qatari and Canadian positions on the crisis in the region.

Saudi Arabia

Prince Sa'ud on Restoring Ties With Iran

NC0310100490 Paris AFP in English 0952 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Riyadh, Oct 3 (AFP)—Saudi Arabia is prepared to open talks with Iran on restoring normal diplomatic relations, severed in 1988, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal was quoted as saying Wednesday.

Prince Sa'ud, currently in New York, was responding to a statement by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati that Iran was ready for diplomatic ties with Saudi Arabia if Riyadh sought the same. The prince's remarks were carried Wednesday by the Saudi newspaper AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT.

Saudi Arabia broke off relations with Iran in April 1988 in a lingering row over incidents at the Mecca pilgrimage the previous year in which 402 people died, most of them Iranian pilgrims.

Prince Sa'ud and Mr. Velayati met twice in New York during a United Nations Conference on Children and agreed that restrictions on visits by Iranian pilgrims to Islamic holy sites in Saudi Arabia would be eased.

Following the deaths in 1987, Riyadh imposed a quota on the number of people each country would be allowed to send on pilgrimage. The quota, which would have reduced the number of Iranian pilgrims from the normal 150,000 to 45,000, was rejected by Teheran. Iranian authorities also objected to a Saudi ban on political demonstrations during the pilgrimage.

British Military Engineers To Set Up Base

NC0210182490 Paris AFP in English 1739 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, Oct 2 (AFP)—British military engineers are searching for a camp for the more than 6,000-strong armoured brigade expected to arrive in Saudi Arabia in about two weeks, British military officials said Tuesday.

More than 250 engineers, mostly members of the 39th Royal Engineering Brigade, have arrived in Saudi Arabia over the past three days, the officials said.

The lightly-armed combat engineers flew in from England and West Germany on VC-10 and Tristar jets, they said.

"The engineers plan to find a camp, erect a camp or convert one," one British military officer said.

Some heavy equipment for the engineers' mission arrived in Saudi Arabia on Tuesday, the officer added.

Britain has announced plans to send more than 6,000 troops from the 7th Armoured Brigade, based in Soltau, West Germany, to Saudi Arabia following Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait.

They are expected to deploy alongside U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia's Eastern Province, south of the Saudi border with Iraqi-occupied Kuwait.

Saudi troops and soldiers from Egypt, Morocco, Syria and other nations have taken up defensive positions in Northern Province.

The 7th Armoured Brigade includes 120 Challenger tanks, Scimitar armoured vehicles, 155mm artillery pieces, and Javelin air defense missiles.

Two squadrons of British Tornado fighter planes have been stationed at a Saudi air base for several weeks.

In addition, Britain has sent warships to the Gulf to enforce the U.N. Security Council-imposed economic embargo against Iraq.

The British warships include the destroyer the HMS York, which is expected to be replaced shortly by the HMS Cardiff, which left Portsmouth in southern England on Monday.

Italian Defense Minister Arrives in Jeddah

LD2909123290 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Mr. Virginio Rognoni, the Italian defense minister, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Jeddah today before noon for a visit to the Kingdom. [passage omitted]

Meets With Defense Minister

LD2909141790 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1252 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Jeddah, 29 Sep (SPA)—His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz—second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general—today received at his palace in Jeddah His Excellency Virginio Rognoni, the Italian defense minister, and members of the delegation accompanying him on his visit to the Kingdom.

The audience was attended by His Royal Higness Prince 'Abd Al-Raman Bin-'Abd al-'Aziz, the deputy minister of defence and aviation and inspector general.

Later, the two sides held a meeting, chaired by Prince Sultan and Virginio Rognoni, during which matters of common interest were discussed.

Confers With King Fahd

LD2909155890 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1505 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Jeddah, 29 Sep (SPA)—The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz—may God preserve him—received at his office at al-Salam Palace today the Italian defense minister, Virginio Rognoni, and members of his delegation who delivered to the king a message from the Italian president, Francisco Cossiga.

The audience was attended by the crown prince, Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and chief of the national Guards; Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general; Prince 'Abd-al-Rahman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, deputy minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; and by the Italian ambassador to the Kingdom.

United Arab Emirates

British Energy Secretary Arives for Talks

JN2909071390 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0600 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Dubayy, 29 Sep (WAKH)—John Wakeham, British secretary of state for energy, arrived in Dubayy at dawn today on a two-day visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE] as part of a tour of the region.

The British secretary will meet with several senior officials in the UAE. He will also hold talks with Dr. Mani' Bin-Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, on bilateral cooperation in energy fields.

Hurd Discusses Use of Force, Kuwait Islands

NC2909150690 Paris AFP in English 1436 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Sept 29 (AFP)—British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said in an interview published here Saturday that there were several weeks left before a decision was likely on whether to use military force against Iraq. Mr. Hurd, in New York for the U.N. General Assembly, told the English-language daily Emirates News that Iraq's occupation of Kuwait must end but economic sanctions would be given time to work.

"We have not yet decided on military action. We still have some weeks," Mr. Hurd said, adding that any Iraqi aggression against the multinational troops in the Gulf would be countered with force. "If agression was mounted against Arab or foreign forces in the Gulf today or tomorrow or if hostilities began, they would have to be countered by force," the United Arab Emirates newspaper quoted Mr. Hurd as saying.

He said Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait must be total, referring to proposals from Arab countries sympathetic to Iraq that Baghdad be allowed to keep the Kuwaiti islands of Bubiyan and Warba. "We have all agreed that (Iraq President) Saddam Husayn cannot hold on to the two islands. These demands are basic and irreversible," Mr. Hurd said.

Italian Defense Minister Arrives On Visit

JN3009103590 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0755 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Sep (WAKH)—Italian Defense Minister Virginio Rognoni arrived in Abu Dhai today heading a military delegation on a visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE]. The visit is part of a tour in the region.

The guest minister will hold talks with senior UAE officials on the recent developments in the region.

Delivers Message to Zayid

JN3009205090 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Sep (WAKH)—President His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan has received a message from Italian President Francesco Cossiga dealing with developments in the region in light of the continued Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

The message was conveyed by Italian Defense Minister Virginio Rognoni, who was received by his highness the president here today. The meeting was attended by Information and Culture Minister Ahmad Bin-Hamid, Chief of Staff Major General Muhammad Sa'id al-Badi, and the Italian ambassador to the United Arab Emirates.

Departs 1 Oct

JN0110151390 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Italian Defense Minister Virginio Rognoni and his delegation left the United Arab Emirates this morning after a visit. Seeing him off at the airport were Chief of Staff Major General Muhammad Sa'id al-Badi; Air Force Staff Major General His Highness Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, deputy chief of staff of the Armed Forces; Major General Matar Salim al-Dhahiri, assistant chief of staff for administration and supplies; Italian Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates Giovanni Ferrero; and several ranking Armed Forces officers.

Yemen

Al-Dali Meets Baker, Counterparts in New York

JN2809205990 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Brother Dr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali, minister of state for foreign affairs, met at the United Nations headquarters in New York with CSFR Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier and DPRK Foreign Minister Yong-nam Kim. He reviewed with each of them separately bilateral relations and developments in the Gulf crisis.

Yesterday the brother minister met in New York with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral relations and international efforts to solve the Gulf crisis peacefully.

Council Issues Decisions To Help Returnees

JN2909201690 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] The Presidential Council held a meeting today under the chairmanship of Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Council, with Foreign Minister Brother 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani present. The Council considered numerous issues and proposals concerned with enhancing the domestic situation in the political, economic, and day-to-day lives of citizens.

He issued directions to the government to take measures to improve the situation by strengthening the activities of government and state institutions in solidarity with the political activity of government, public, and parliamentary institutions to guarantee the completion of all tasks by all institutions and establishments. This is especially important at this stage, which requires further solidarity, unity, and concentration of national efforts and potential in the battle of construction and comprehensive developments.

The Council reviewed in its meeting the message from King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, Saudi Arabian monarch and custodian of the two holy mosques, to his brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, which he sent in response to the president's message of 19 September 1990.

The Council also reviewed the Soviet leadership's message to the brother president, which expressed great appreciation for the role and stand of the Yemeni leadership on the crisis in the region and resolving it on peaceful bases.

The Council reviewed the situation of returnees from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in light of the new measures taken by the fraternal Saudi Government. The Council discussed arrangements and facilities offered by the government to the brother citizens returning from the Kingdom. It directed the government to provide the returnees with further facilities to help relieve their situation and ease their sufferings.

The Council took a decision to allocate 200 million riyals to the Agricultural Loan Bank to provide easy loans, and for decreasing interest on loans provided for buying fishing boats and equipment and for drilling agricultural wells for citizens returning from abroad who have been harmed by the measures taken against them.

Foreign Minister on 'Peaceful Transition', Crisis

OW0310084590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0651 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Sanaa, Oct. 3 KYODO—Yemen's Foreign Minister 'Abd- al-Karim al-Iryani has called for a process of peaceful transition to solve the two-month-old Gulf crisis resulting from Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Al-Iryani said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE on Tuesday that a withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait would initiate such a transitionary solution, but criticized as complicating the matter the deployment of the multinational forces in the Gulf region.

He also called for a withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied West Bank, the Golan Heights, and southern Lebanon for a permanent peace in the Middle East.

Al-Iryani, who once served as prime minister in the old North Yemen before it merged with South Yemen last May, stressed that Yemen does not regard as legitimate the Iraqi invasion and annexation of Kuwait and reiterated that Iraqi troops should first leave Kuwait.

He then proposed negotiations to solve the causes of Iraqi aggression, a withdrawal of foreign troops from the region and the lifting of a series of sanctions imposed against Iraq.

Al-Iryani opposed using military force to resolve the crisis. He said the multinational forces have complicated the matter.

He said if the international community hoped for a permanent peace in the Middle East, it should also seek a solution to the Palestinian problem arising from the Israeli occupation "just the same as an Iraqi troop withdrawal from Kuwait."

Al-Iryani denied as "totally groundless" reports about Yemen's military cooperation with Iraq, including deployment of Iraqi forces within the boundary of Yemen.

Noting that Yemen has invited Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz to visit as one way to seek solutions to the crisis, Al-Iryani stressed that leaders of concerned Arab nations all support continued dialogue with Iraq.

Yemen is the only Arab member of the 15-member United Nations Security Council.

Saddam Allows Nine French Nationals To Leave

JN0110095890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0945 GMT 1 Oct 90

[All French names as received]

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Oct (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has issued an order allowing a number of Iraq's French guests to leave Iraq in the company of the delegation of the French-Iraqi Friendship Society led by Gilles Monnet. INA learned that the nine French nationals who are included in this humanitarian gesture are Bouban Jean Ayve, Frank Auseau, Gerard Wisat, Lauran Lucal, Christophe Corisibio, Akbar 'Ali Ramadan, Din Mahmud Tacki, Hasan 'Ali Mansur Husayn, and Durnou Michel Henry Paul.

German Foreign Ministry Reports More Abductions

LD0110145990 Hamburg DPA in German 1432 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—Over the weekend the Iraqi authorities abducted another eight Germans from a hotel in Baghdad and took them to strategically important locations. The number of Germans abducted has thus risen to 76, a Foreign Ministry spokesman told the press in Bonn today. There are no longer any direct contacts with the Germans concerned. The federal government has repeatedly protested fiercely against Iraq's actions.

Kuwaiti Paper Reports Purge in Security Forces

PM0310102590 London AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI in Arabic 28 Sep 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "It Has Been Reported..."—formerly Kuwait AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI]

[Text] It has been reported that a campaign of liquidations took place recently among the ranks of the public security forces in Iraq. And that at the forefront of those liquidated is officer Khayri Jilmiran, deputy director of administrative affairs in the secret police (investigation) general secretariat. And that the reasons for the liquidations lay in disputes over the huge numbers of items stolen from Kuwait.

MENA Reports Demonstrations in Several Cities

NC3009103790 Cairo MENA in English 0951 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Doha, Sept. 30 (MENA)—A number of Iraqi cities have witnessed wide-scale demonstrations, due to worsening economic conditions, mandatory austerity, and the subscriptions they are forced to pay, "AL-SHARQ" newspaper reported today. Iraqi security organs quelled these demonstrations, the paper added. An investigation has been made with Governor of Mosul Tahir Tawfiq and the north organisation bureau official Hasan 'Ali on these demonsrations, holding both to blame for having failed to suppress the demonstrations instanteously, the QNA [QATARI NEWS AGENCY], quoting the paper, said.

The Iraqi authorities used the popular army in cordoning the city off some four weeks ago, after women had torn pictures of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and shouted slogans against him, the paper said. The incident led to the falling of several casualties and the arrest of hundreds of Iraqi citizens, the paper added.

SAM Batteries Deployed on Turkish Border

LD3009202890 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] The Iraqi regime has installed six batteries of surface-to-air missiles at the Iraqi-Turkish border. The Turkish paper MILLIYET reports that the Iraqi military preparations at the Turkish border are continuing, the latest of which is the installation of these missiles. The paper adds that the Iraqi missiles at the Turkish border can be seen with the naked eye.

Negev Radar Center Said To Target Arabs

JN0210160390 Baghdad AL-QADISIYAH in Arabic 28 Sep 90 p 2

[Text] Informed Arab sources disclosed to AL-QADISIYAH that Israel received the approval of Husni's government in the form of a personal order to build a huge communications and radar control center with a large capacity for remote sensing using state-of-the-art scientific systems. The sources told AL-QADISIYAH that this center was built southeast of the Negev desert, specifically on the Ha'arava road leading to Elat. The location was chosen for its geographic advantage, since from this site the radar equipment can reach numerous regions and control them.

These sources stated that during the reception of an Israeli military delegation in Cairo recently, the Husni government urged the Israeli enemy authorities to speed the completion of this center to help provide U.S. forces in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] with military intelligence, in cooperation with the Israeli military bases scattered throughout the Zionist entity and the U.S. bases in Egypt and the Middle East. According to informed Arab sources, Husni's government asked Israel to concentrate the center's activities against Iraq and to use its modern, high-tech equipment to monitor Iraqi troop movements. It seems that other U.S. centers and bases are facing difficulties in gathering information on the movements of Iraqi troops, which employ special modes of camouflage. They also have modern equipment with the capability to jam U.S. radars. These sources also affirmed to AL-QADISIYAH that Husni's government asked the Croesus of Kuwait and the betrayer of the two holy mosques for a sum totaling $300 million to contribute toward developing this center, since it poses a great danger, in Husni's opinion, to Iraqi troops, and is the guarantee for accurately revealing their movements. The United States also contributed $200 million toward the cost of setting up this center, and has supplied it with modern radar and jamming equipment. Informed Arab sources told to AL-QADISIYAH that all the equipment and tools have been imported from the U.S. Westinghouse company.

The Israeli authorities have clamped complete secrecy on the goals of this center, which is used for early warning on long-range missiles aimed at Israel. At the same time, it functions as a ground station for receiving information from satellites used to spy on Arab countries. This center concentrates its spying on Iraq, Libya, and Yemen.

The Arab sources affirm that one section specializes in monitoring Egyptian troop movements and listening in on their communications. This is done out of the fear that they may stage a mutiny against Husni, especially after the latest developments. The same sources pointed out that the establishment of this center coincided with the Western campaign against Iraq and the story of the supergun spread by U.S., British, and Zionist circles.

On the other hand, the government of the betrayer of the two holy mosques and the Croesus hirelings indicated their complete willingness to finance such a center inside Israel. These informed sources expect the betrayer of the two holy mosques to provide other facilities to Israel, such as weapon deals, during this period where the Israeli enemy, Husni, the betrayer of the two mosques, and the interred Croesus are coordinating their stands. These sources asserted that this center poses a threat to all Arab countries, whether in Africa or Asia.

Pro-Iraqi London Magazine Suspends Publication

JN0110152290 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 29 Sep 90 p 18

[Text] The pro-Iraqi weekly magazine AL-DUSTUR has announced that it will entirely cease publiction because of the stifling financial difficulties it has undergone since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

The magazine, which has been published in London for more than 15 years, promised its readers that it will resume publication when it catches its breath and the financial crisis is over.

It is well known that the magazine is supported entirely by Iraq and that some Sudanese figures in the pro-Iraqi Sudanese Ba'th Party also stand behind it.

PLF Leader Denounces Resolution on Air Embargo

JN0310110690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0945 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Oct (INA)—Palestinian struggler Abu-al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] has denounced the UN Security Council resolution imposing an air blockade against Iraq and described it as a U.S. resolution dictated on the international community.

In a statement published by the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH today, the secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Front [PLF] said that this blockade has bestowed legal legitimacy on air piracy by one state against another to serve its parochial interests, and consequently it is terrorist legislation that does not serve world peace.

Abu-al-'Abbas reiterated his warning, saying: We will not allow the implementation of such legislation against our people and nation, and in the event Iraqi civilian aircraft are exposed to U.S. piracy or harmed, we will reply in kind to such aggression.

The PLF secretary general praised President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative. He said this initiative has dotted the i's of the most important issues in the region, called for discussing these issues on the same basis as that proposed for the discussion of the Gulf crisis, and expressed commitment to the need to discuss the Palestine question in accordance with the principles of international law and UN resolutions.

He denounced the U.S. Administration and its allies' attitude toward the Iraqi peace initiative, because the initiative does not serve the objectives of America, the Zionist entity, and Arab reactionaries. He added: This is why these sides are looking for ways to defend their positions against the Iraqi initiative.

The PLF secretary general spoke about the French initiative, saying: It has brought the new features to the European approach to the Middle East, adding that it would be a suitable step if developed and if a dialogue took place concerning it in order to make it a reasonable basis for integration with the Iraqi initiative.

Protesters March on U.S., Other Embassies

JN0210200990 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad—Student masses in Baghdad have denounced the conspiratorial role played by agents Fahd and Husni against the Arab and Islamic nation and their treasonous act of inviting foreign troops to the holy Arab and Islamic land. This has been expressed during demonstrations by protesters who marched the streets of Baghdad toward the British and U.S. embassies and the embassies of the regimes of charlatan Fahd and agent Husni. During these demonstrations, protest notes against the U.S.-Zionist invasion of the holy Arab lands were delivered. The students of Iraq strongly condemned the conspiratorial course adopted by the two [Fahd and Mubarak] along with their U.S. and Zionist supporters to undermine Iraq's culture, progress, and prosperity. They also condemned the repressive measure of the United States and its allies of imposing the economic blockade on Iraq and depriving the Iraqis of food, medicines, and baby milk. In their memorandums, the students demanded that foreign troops from the holy Islamic places be evacuated, and that matters be left up to the Arabs without any foreign intervention.

The demonstrators, who carried large portraits of leader President Saddam Husayn, expressed friendship with and allegiance to his excellency, declaring their solidarity with his wise leadership as soldiers for the defense of Iraq and the Arab nation.

Commentary Reminds U.S. of Vietnam 'Defeat'

LD0210232690 Baghdad International Service in English 2100 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The United States national security adviser Brent Scowcroft quoted President George Bush as saying that he would seek a United Nations Security Council resolution on the possibility of military action against Iraq. Apparently, the United States move would give a United Nations cover for its aggression against Iraq and the Arabs, a thing which Iraq has been warning against since the Gulf crisis erupted in early August.

Meanwhile, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd told an Abu Dhabi daily that military action should be taken against Iraq if the blockade imposed against the country failed to force Iraq to give in to Western objectives.

Undoubtedly these war-mongering statements by the United States and Britain show that imperialist powers are bent on defying logic through prompting slogans of war against Iraq and the Arabs who are capable of solving their own problems away from foreign intervention. Iraq has made it clear that if the United States started a war it would not be up to the Americans to stop that war.

Such a war would mean a carnage worse for the United States than that of the Vietnam war, a small country having nothing other than the unlimited will of its population to achieve independence. Vietnam taught the Americans the unforgettable lesson that peoples of the world are determined to confront tyranny with unyielding strength as long as they remain on the (?side of right).

The United States intervention in Vietnam, which marked at that phase an American [word indistinct] failed to break up the steadfastness of a people who fought a superpower with diverse means of defense. They survived the heaviest air attacks in modern history. The Americans think that through such attacks they can intimidate Iraq, thus displaying a (?state of weak) memory as far as the American defeat in Vietnam is concerned.

Mr. Bush is telling the Americans that he and his allies are capable of inflicting quick strikes against their targets in Iraq and end the war they plan for in that way. But Bush has to tell his people what almost all military strategists agree upon: air power has never decided the outcome of a war for the United States, whether during World War Second [as heard], in Korea, or in Vietnam.

So the Americans are obliged to fight on the ground if they want to lead a war, thus facing a well-equipped and war-hardened Iraqi Army. Under such a state of affairs the United States' ordeal will be more violent, demanding greater sacrifices, and bigger losses. Thousands of Americans and allied troops will perish in an alien land and will go back to their countries in coffins.

Once a war is ignited in the Gulf region by the United States and its allies and puppets it will be the United States that will receive the heaviest blow as its troops make the bulk of the force and its satellite regimes in the area will not withstand the Iraqi blow either. They are as fragile as the puppet governments the United States installed in southeast Asia during the war in Indochina, including South Vietnam.

The usual strong build up and the anti-Iraq aggressive policy will lead to nowhere and the imperialist powers are to take Iraq's peace initiative seriously or be prepared for the deluge that will engulf the American invaders and their allies and their stooges in the region.

Commentary Alleges U.S, Israeli Conspiracy

LD0210150590 Baghdad International Service in English 2100 GMT 1 Oct 90

[station commentary]

[Text] Long before the so-called Gulf crisis came to the fore in the United States, its staunchest ally, Britain, and their foster child, Israel, started a feverish campaign against Iraq, which had just come out of an eight-year old war with Iran. The campaign, designed by Israel and its [word indistinct] in the West, protected itself in a media cover. [passage indistinct]

(?Thus), the conspiracy against Iraq started to take a variety of forms and the scope of anti-Iraq campaigns rising, taking dangerous levels. New agents were used in this conspiracy and these were chosen from among Arabs, or those who call themselves Arabs. The former rulers of Kuwait became the tool while the United States, Britain, and Israel were drawing up the details of the plot. The plot acquired a dangerous turn as the culprits were pinching hard at Iraq's [words indistinct]. The target of the conspirators was the people of Iraq, whom U.S. President George Bush claims he has no quarrel with. When the United States, Britain, and Israel tried to undermine Iraq's image in the world with claims ranging from nuclear triggers to superguns they initiated an embargo on exports bound for Iraq and started to imagine oil pipes as giant gun barrels, chocolate bars as bomb detonators and almost everything else [words indistinct] were triple-checked.

After 2 August, and following Kuwait's return to its motherland, Iraq, on 8 August, the United States felt it should directly take over the assault and started a massive deployment of forces in the Arab Gulf region and the Arab Peninsula. Along with the deployment of its forces, warships, and warplanes, besides the participation of other Western powers and some Arab traitors in the deployment, the United States led a vicious campaign at the United Nations Security Council to impose the most brutal blockade (?in man's history) with the aim of strangling Iraq's people.

President Bush and other senior U.S. Administration officials make daily threats to Iraq and its people, whom Bush claims to have no (?quarrel) with. Who is Bush fighting then, if he is doing his best to ensure that no food, no medicine and no baby milk will get into Iraq. Is he fighting against (?God) or human beings? If Bush really thinks [word indistinct] then he is definitely ill-informed.

The Iraqi people know very well that Bush played many a role in the conspiracies hatched against Iraq. His role in the Irangate conspiracy against Iraq is evidence. (?Mr Bush's) attempts to distort Iraq's image with his claims about nuclear triggers, his ban on United States exports to Iraq, even before the Gulf events, and his (?intent) to launch war against Iraq are but a few instances of the hate in his heart for the people of Iraq and the Arab nation in general. (?But he will be dismayed). Bush will not be able to intimidate the people of Iraq or their leadership, no matter what terror he (?garners) or what threat he makes. Iraq is impregnable.

Spokesman Views Bush Remarks on Weapons

JN0210125890 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1145 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] An official authorized spokesman has stated the following: Bush addressed the UN General Assembly yesterday, wearing, without being entitled, the garb of a priest. This was to conceal, along with his sugar-coated statements on weapons of destruction and peace, his aggressive actions and plans against the Arab nation, wealth, and sanctities. In order not to go into further details, and not to repeat to world opinion what we have previously exposed in terms of the contradiction between words and deeds, we will quote Bush on one issue only; namely his desire to destroy chemical weapons in the region. We say that we support the destruction of all mass destruction weapons in the region, and not only chemical weapons; that this measure should not be confined to the Arabs only, but should affect all sides, including Israel; and that it should take place to implement a serious effort to achieve comprehensive security in the region so the people in the region and the world can open the door for a full and comprehensive peace—a peace that the weak and the strong enjoy together, and that rich and poor and big and small states alike enjoy without privileges for this or that party at the expense of world peace and security. Can Bush give us a clear answer to our proposal? Or will he, using exposed pretexts, eliminate the chemical weapons first, as if he can cover light with a sieve, as the Arab saying goes?

Chemical weapons are no more dangerous than the nuclear weapons held in the region by Israel, which Bush is trying to avoid angering. In fact, we challenge him to present such a proposal to Israel. Bush's reaction to our proposal will show world public opinion in general, and Western public opinion in particular, whether Bush is sincere in his call and his concern for peace and security in the region and the world, or whether he is, as we actually know him, no more than a war advocate, and that the peace calls he makes are only a cover and for local consumption.

Papers Say Nation Maintains Desire for Peace

JN0210130290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Oct (INA)—Two Iraqi newspapers have stressed that the peace call contained in President Saddam Husayn's message on the prophet's birthday reflects Iraq's sincere desire for peace.

The newspaper AL-QADISIYAH, organ of the Iraqi Defense Ministry, says that Iraq still maintains the desire for peace. It carries the olive branch in one hand and a sword in the other to achieve justice and right in the causes of its nation, religion, and humanity when there is an opportunity to do so.

The paper points out that President Saddam Husayn's call to achieve peace on the prophet's birthday anniversary is based on principles and pillars on which honest people do not disagree, and grants the parties involved in the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy the virtue of retreat, and the honor to seriously contribute to the responsibility of achieving a just and comprehensive solution to all the region's issues.

AL-QADISIYAH warns all those who insist on the military option, saying: Iraq, which carries the olive branch, possesses the power, capabilities, and the achievements of its citizens that will surprise the world. Its capability is unlimited, and its army possesses enough power and weapons of destruction to crush any aggression even if it was carried out by all despotic and evil forces in the world; foremost of which is the United States.

Commenting on Iraq's peace call and its pillars, AL-QADISIYAH adds: Any solution to this crisis must be based on three main priorities: First, lifting the blockade on Iraq in all its forms and formulas. Second, the withdrawal of the foreign forces of invasion from Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] and the Arabian Gulf. And, finally, renouncing threats, intimidation, and the buildup of forces; and resorting to a constructive dialogue.

The paper stresses its warning, saying: The war, if it erupts, will bring catastrophe to all sides, particularly to the foreign buildup, the Western interests, and the chief elements of infidelity and evil in Najd and Hejaz and the Zionist entity.

The newspaper AL-THAWRAH agrees with AL-QADISIYAH about the heavy losses that will be inflicted on the invading forces if armed conflict erupts. It says: Despite the analyses and expectations of their experts, advisers, and computers, they [the enemies] are unable to calculate the heavy losses resulting from the military option they are threatening.

The paper draws the attention of these parties to the fact if there is aggression against Iraq, then it will turn into a serious catastrophe for them and all their allies in the region. It describes President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative as an alternative to the catastrophe of war, and a balanced basis for resolving all the region's issues on unified and cohesive bases, foremost of which is the Palestine question.

AL-THAWRAH focuses on a pan-Arab axiom in which all Arabs believe; namely that peace will not be achieved and the international community will not be able to resolve any of the other problems in the region without settling the Palestine question. It points to the importance of the Arab solution to the pan-Arab issues. It says: This solution cannot be achieved except amid sound Arab relations, and sound Arab relations cannot be achieved under the canopy of the foreign forces that are occupying the Arabs' land and sanctities, or under the feverish American threats.

Spokesman Denies Connection With Djibouti Attack

JN0110120490 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1146 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] An official spokesman commented today on a statement French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas made the day before yesterday in which he said that France would retaliate if Iraq were found to be connected with a grenade attack on a crowded cafe in Djibouti on Thursday that killed a French child—with the following:

It is not Iraqi policy to encourage terrorism except against those who open fire against it with terrorism. And France has not opened fire with terrorism against Iraq. Therefore, it is not Iraqi policy to encourage the killing of children and terrorism, as some are doing when they deprive millions of Iraq's children of food.

Media Warned Not To Charge State With Terrorism

JN0310104990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1022 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Oct (INA)—An Iraqi political analyst has refuted the objectives behind slanders that have recently been disseminated by some hostile news media claiming that Iraq has sent terrorist squads to carry out terrorist operations.

The INA international affairs editor said that Iraq reiterates its commitment to the principles in which it believes and abides by regarding the renunciation of terrorism. The editor stressed that it is not Iraq's policy to encourage terrorism except against whoever practices terrorism against it.

The editor warned the parties that are disseminating such reports and news against exploiting circumstances to carry out acts of terrorism with the objective of attributing them to Iraq. He said that Iraq holds these parties fully responsible for such terrorist operations.

'Text' of Saddam Message to Conference on Children

JN0110123190 Baghdad INA in English 1200 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, Oct. 1, INA—President Saddam Husayn addressed a message to the International Conference on Children currently held in New York with the attendence of a number of world leaders and head of governments. Following is the text of the message.

On the occasion of the convening of the International Conference on Children, we have the pleasure to send the following message to all free peoples of the world who look forward to providing an honourable, free way of life to future generation where justice and equality shall prevail and where the discrimination and hegemony which characterize our world today, shall be eliminated.

It is a matter of deep concern and regret that at the very time that the International Conferenece on Children is being held, the great powers which dominate the Security Council are depriving the children of Iraq from milk and food under the pretext of imposing economic sanctions against Iraq.

Those powers and their collaborators have resorted to the use of food as a weapon against a whole people including mothers and children, an act which is being implemented by states which consider themselves to be civilized and which has no precedent in contemporary history.

Those states have written a black page in the history of the United Nations Organisation by imposing those barbaric measures and condoning the use of food as a weapon in international conflicts with the approval of the Security Council and under the cover of its resolutions. In imposing these measures, the great powers have done so in the full knowledge that they themselves and their allies are immune to any similar condemnations or sanctions regardless of the enormity of the act of aggression they perpetrate, as they enjoy the veto rights to protect themselves from the consequences of their aggressive and arbitrary policies, and from the judgement of the international community.

We call upon the leaders of small states and of the developing countries in particular to stand together and to cooperate to rectify these iniquitous conditions and to put an end to the threats to the lives of children by the use of food and medicines as a weapon against them.

UNICEF Urged to Protect Nation's Children

JN0210135490 Baghdad INA in English 1158 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 2, INA—An Iraqi newspaper said that childhood institutions, in their forefront UNICEF, should work for implementing the recent resolutions of the international conference of children on the Iraqi children and meeting their needs of milk and medicine which represent the minimum limit for protecting their lives and ensuring their welfare.

The paper AL-THAWRAH said that the United States is committing a crime against the children of Iraq without having a law, human principle or legislation that could obstruct its actions. The U.S. measures were after starving children in the most grave precedent that could only be interpreted into an intention of hatred and the desire for killing.

The paper said that UNICEF urgent action would materialize the credibility of the conference resolutions and the human principles of this organization.

Japanese Parliamentarian Departs After Visit

JN0210171790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1248 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Oct (INA)—Mrs. Wakaku Hironaka [name as received], member of the Japanese House of Councillors, left Baghdad today concluding a three-day visit to Iraq.

Mrs. Hironaka expressed happiness for visiting Iraq and for the hospitality accorded her during the visit. In a statement to INA, she said that she met with National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih and other Iraqi officials, with whom she discussed developments in the region.

Tariq 'Aziz Returns to Baghdad From Yemen 1 Oct

JN0210085890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0828 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Oct (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Baghdad last night following a one-day visit to the Republic of Yemen.

During the visit, the foreign minister conveyed an oral message from President Saddam Husayn to his brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The message deals with relations between the two fraternal countries and developments of the situation in the region.

Jurists Rule on Saudi 'Heresy', Call for 'Jihad'

JN0110174290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 1 Oct (INA)—The jurists of Iraq have issued a statement regarding the legal ruling on seeking the help of the infidels against the Muslims. The following is the text:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Statement issued by the jurists of Iraq regarding the legal ruling on seeking the help of infidels against Muslims.

Thanks be to God, and blessings and mercy be upon the prophet of God, his household, companions, and those who follow him.

The responsibility of the ulema, jurists, and scholars of the Koran in showing what is allowed and what is forbidden, what is fair and what is unfair, what is right and what is wrong, and what is good and what is evil in the deeds of people, communities, individuals, and states is a great responsibility tantamount to the responsibility of prophets. Those who conceal the real signs we have sent down, and the guidance, after we have made it clear for the people in the book—on them shall be God's curse, and the curse of those entitled to curse. [Koranic verse]

On the basis of that religious responsibility, Iraq's jurists and Muslim ulema have held a comprehensive meeting attended by people from different schools of jurisprudence on the fringes of the celebration held to celebrate the birthday of the master of mankind, our prophet Muhammad—God's blessings be upon him—to reach a legal judgment on the heresy committed by the ruler of Najd and Hejaz, the Saudi king, to seek the help of infidels to strike at Iraq and prevent food from reaching its people—men, women, the elderly, and children—on the basis of a false, unfounded threat.

That action has shocked Muslims everywhere. It has shaken their consciousness and confused their aspirations in seeking the glory of Islam and the unity of all Muslims. They were surprised by the fact that some ulema in Saudi Arabia have approved this action and given public legal opinions to that extent on the basis of the false legal necessity. Regrettably, in the recent conference of the Islamic World League, some other jurisprudents have based their legal opinion not on unquestionable evidence in the Koran or the prophet's teachings, authorized jurisprudence, or on what is known in the religion either by evidence or interpretation, but on earthly considerations which they should have paid no attention to while considering the clear-cut fact—that seeking the help of the infidels to hurt Muslims is prohibited in all cases. It is also prohibited to rely on them to judge what has taken place among Muslims. [passage omitted]

Come on to jihad to raise the word of God and expel the aggressive polytheists from the land of the Peninsula in order to save the holy Ka'bah and the tomb of the noble prophet, God's blessings be upon him, and to liberate the Islamic nation from the hegemony of the aggressive and infidel United States.

We have in the courageous leadership of President Saddam Husayn—who calls for jihad and who is the hero of confrontation—the hope and the example to protect Islam and the nation's interests. May God grant him success to revive His shari'a [Islamic Law] and to follow the teachings of His prophet, our master Muhammad, God's blessings be upon him. Thanks be to God, the lord of all the universe.

[Dated] Baghdad, 11 Rabi' Awwal, 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 30 September 1990.

Islamic Jihad Leader Urges Battle Preparation

JN0110093690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Oct (INA)—Shaykh As'ad Bayyud al-Tamimi, leader of the Islamic Jihad Movement-Bayt al-Maqdis, has described the decision by the ruler of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] to bring the forces of infidelity and falsehood into the land of prophecy and the tomb of the prophet as a crime unacceptable to God. In a statement to AL-QADISIYAH published today, he said: I address my call to Muslims and the Iraqi people to prepare themselves for the great confrontation battle.

Shaykh al-Tamimi added that what is taking place in the Arabian Peninsula is the most important matter because it is related to our Ka'bah and the tomb of the prophet. He said that the Islamic nation is called upon to ignite a revolution that will not stop until the rulers that brought infidels into the land of the Arabs have been removed.

Agriculture Ministry Seeks Increased Production

LD0110002190 Baghdad International Service in English 2000 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has taken measures to confront the economic blockade imposed by America and its allies on Iraq. In the first place, the Ministry decided to make use of the largest possible agricultural areas available at present and during the coming winter season. It also decided to provided locally produced fertilizers and to distribute them in the (?shortest) time to farmers. In the meantime, the Ministry has carefully studied the reserves of animal feed available at all all (?key) projects in order to fairly distribute the raw material necessary for them.

The Ministry also decided to form a number of committees to examine and diagnose animal diseases at an earlier stage. The Ministry of Agriculture (?expansion) bodies and agriculture and irrigation branches in the provinces launched campaigns to make people working in agriculture use scientific methods in agriculture, like the preparation of land, the use of fertilizers, and irrigation in a way that guarantees an increase in the productivity of each dunam, a dunam equal 2,500 square meters.

Such campaigns must also show people, the farmers, how to increase the production of eggs and meat and how to make use of [words indistinct] in producing vegetables. The ministry has also asked agricultural and irrigation bodies and farmers unions at the provinces to give a clear instruction on the most useful and rational exploitation of water. The farmers should make use of the high prices paid to them by the government for their agricultural produce, and should therefore work to produce high quality crops and to protect them from theft.

Meanwhile, Agricultural and Irrigation Ministers Mr. Abd al-Wahab Mahmud stressed that his ministry is quite serious about providing the essential foodstuff to people and (?keep) them from starvation, which imperialist forces want to impose. He added that all people working in agriculture and irrigation are able to foil the aggressive designs on the country. [passage omitted]

On the other hand, Agricultural Bank increased borrowing by farmers by 100 percent. The objective behind this decision, said the bank's director-general, is to expand agricultural lands allocated for wheat, barley, corn, rye, soya, and potatoes. The bank pays the price for seeds and fertilizers. This amounts to 250,000 Iraqi dinars for individuals, and 500,000 Iraqi dinars for agricultural companies' projects. The total amount of money allocated for borrowing by farmers has reached 105 million dinars. The bank offers 14 percent of this sum of money to the production of wheat, barley, and corn. The bank has to penalize farmers who do not use the money for the real purpose. Amount of money given to the farmers will be taken back with a total interest of 14 percent.

Paper Asks Muslims To Declare 'Holy Jihad'

JN0110110990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Oct (INA)—The newspaper AL-'IRAQ has called on Arabs and Muslims throughout the world to declare holy jihad in order to cleanse the Muslims' sanctities, liberate the land that God granted the honor of embracing both prophecies and prophets, and to save the two holy mosques from captivity and occupation. In today's editorial, the paper says that holy jihad behind the banner of God-supported mujahid Saddam Husayn to save the two holy mosques from the filth of the Zionist and American aggressive invaders and their allies has become an individual obligation on every Muslim.

AL-'IRAQ recalls the great significance of Arabs' and Muslims' celebration of the prophet's birthday. The paper says: On this great occasion, we call on all Muslims throughout the world to expose the infidelity and apostasy of the betrayer of the two holy mosques, agent Fahd, and his exaggerated claims about Islam, while Islam washes its hands of him after he opened—in cooperation with agent Camp David's Husni [Mubarak]—the doors of the land of the messages and the tomb of the generous Arab Prophet Muhammad Bin-'Abdallah to American forces and their allies to desecrate the land of Mecca and the tomb of the great prophet.

AL-'IRAQ adds that the birthday of the great Prophet Muhammad raises hope in the souls of all Muslims that justice will triumph, falsehood will be defeated, and all forms of tyranny, infidelity, and oppression will be destroyed. The occasion calls on all Muslims throughout the world to liberate the tomb of the generous prophet from the occupation of infidels and Jews.

Concluding, AL-'IRAQ calls for taking the anniversary of the prophet's birthday as an inspiration to escalate the jihad to expel the invaders from the Arabian Peninsula and to free Mecca and Medina from captivity.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Predicts Greater Self-Sufficiency

JN0110121790 Baghdad INA in Arabic
0735 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Oct (INA)—AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the embargo imposed on Iraq will become—at the hands of its sons—a nucleus for a pioneering experiment in self-sufficiency and self-reliance in everything. In today's editorial, the newspaper says that not a single day passes without a revolution in the Iraqi economy to make it stronger and firmer through developing the atmosphere and finding alternatives in industry, agriculture, and other economic activities. And this is not impossible, O Mr. Bush. The newspaper adds: What is impossible is to manufacture oil through Western techniques. What is also impossible is to defeat the people's will and subject it to wagering. Had this not been the case, a group of free men would not have been able to sweep away Husni's predecessor and the other agents. AL-JUMHURIYAH adds that the Arab and Muslim masses that have condemned the foreign presence and expressed full support for the steps taken by Iraq in its defiance of the will of evil and for its non-subservience to all political, economic, and military pressures, know that, in these stands, they also support the principles in which they believe. Noble Iraq is their roaring voice that does not know retreat.

The paper says that these masses are aware of the solid ground on which Iraq stands in defending a fair and honorable cause. Iraq possesses gigantic human and military capabilities enabling it to conduct the confrontation regardless of the difficulties and the fleets and armies of evil. The paper adds that the banner of justice borne by leader mujahid Saddam Husayn will continue to fly forever, because it is the banner that flies with pride and dignity over the heads of all mujahidin who are faithful to their true and tolerant doctrine and defends their land and sanctities. Baghdad will continue to be the dome embracing all honest strugglers who stand against the will of evil and evildoers.

Levi Announces Agreement on U.S. Loan Guarantee

Immigration Aid Excludes Territories

TA0210190190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Israel and the United States have agreed on conditions to the American guarantee of a $400 million loan to help Israel settle Soviet immigrants. Foreign Minister Levi has promised his U.S. counterpart, Secretary of State Baker, that the money will not be used for settling immigrants in the territories. Jonathan Schachter reports from New York:

Levi's announcement followed a telephone call from Secretary of State Baker to Levi's New York hotel room. The United States and Israel, Levi said, have reached accord in a formula for the United States to provide Israel with the $400 million in loan guarantees for construction of housing for new immigrants from the Soviet Union.

According to the agreement, the guarantees will only apply to those geographic areas under Israeli jurisdiction prior to 5 June 1967. Later today, the foreign minister is to send Baker a letter to confirm the arrangement, and the agreement for the loan guarantees will become effective upon the administration's receipt of that letter.

According to Israeli sources, the letter will consist of four points: 1) Levi will thank Baker for all the agreements and understandings that have been reached. 2) In accordance with statements already made by the prime minister and housing minister, Levi will reiterate that there is no Israeli Government policy to direct new immigrants to the territories. 3) Levi will state that the Government of Israel does not provide incentives to Jews settling in the territories. 4) As Secretary of State Baker has a duty to appear before Congress and other U.S. bodies to report on the implementation of the loan agreement, the Government of Israel will provide the administration from time to time and on an annual basis with information on the housing plans for the immigrants and on any incentive programs that exist and on financial activities.

Levi was adamant, however, that this latter point did not mean that Israel would be reporting to the United States as a subordinate reports to a superior. Rather, he said, Israel and the United States will be passing information between each other as allies. The basis for the guarantees will be the implementation agreements of September 1980 between the Governments of Israel and the United States, in which the United States also provided Israel with assurances for construction of housing.

The financial details of the arrangement will be worked out through the American Agency for International Development [AID], the AID will assign a team to Israel within the next several days to finalize the accord.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1700 GMT on 2 October adds: "Foreign Minister Levi told our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami that the understanding with the United States does not imply any deviation from the government guidelines, although it recognizes the need for coordination between Israel and the United States."]

Remarks Upon Returning

TA0310091990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] The foreign minister has made it clear that Israel did not promise Washington anything in order to receive the loan guarantees to fund immigrant absorption, except for the commitment that there is no government policy to divert immigrants to the settlements. He said other U.S. Administration demands were rejected out of hand, including the request to provide prior information on investments in the territories.

Minister David Levi made the remarks at Ben-Gurion Airport on his return from talks at the UN General Assembly, and drove straight to Jerusalem to update the prime minister.

Foreign Minister Levi Assesses U.S. Trip

TA0310080390 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT (SUKKOTH supplement) in Hebrew 3 Oct 90 p 14

[Interview with Foreign Minister David Levi by Shim'on Schiffer in New York; date not given]

[Text] [Schiffer] David Levi, your counterpart, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, told you that if Israel is attacked by Iraq, the United States will stand by Israel and react as warranted. What is the meaning of this declaration?

[Levi] I do not wish to deal in the interpretation of this statement. I can only say that it should be welcomed. It is a manifestation of things that were said and done during this visit.

[Schiffer] The administration has not yet responded to the request that the United States underwrite a $400 million loan for immigrant absorption. Is there a chance that you might reach an agreement on the matter?

[Levi] One should understand that our differences of opinion regarding settlement are not new. I believe that the issue could be resolved in an understanding. We are continuing to work on the formulation of the assurances the United States is seeking. Israel refuses to make a commitment that could in any way compromise its political freedom of action as a sovereign country in matters related to settlement policy.

[Schiffer] But if it does not accept these terms it will not receive the money.

[Levi] Baker did not say so. He told me that he, too, was under certain pressure. He knows what can be done and what cannot be done.

[Schiffer] So what did you achieve during your U.S. visit?

[Levi] The consultations between Israel and the United States on the crisis in our region have become an open matter and are now a public affair. During the early stages of the crisis we were in a situation in which we were expected to remain in the shadows. I am glad this has changed completely, as I had demanded. The administration has also acceded to our requests that it pledge itself to continue to assist us in all the areas and to review Israel's needs with a sympathetic bent.

[Schiffer] How did you feel during your talks when the U.S. Administration criticized the lack of coordination between the senior ministers?

[Levi] I am not prepared to address such questions. I do my job and faithfully try to promote state causes. At times misunderstandings occur, and I regard it as my duty to calm the tension and anger that accumulates. Let me just emphasize that I defend my colleagues here, which is not only my job but also my duty. I wish my colleagues back in Israel would do the same.

PRC Minister Links Ties With Peace Process

TA0210190390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] China's Foreign Minister Qian Qichen says relations between his country and Israel are conditional on progress in the Middle East peace process. He made this statement after a meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister David Levi at the UN Assembly.

The two did not discuss the convening of an international conference which, in the past, has been a Chinese precondition for improving relations with Israel. The Palestinian issue was also not discussed.

The Chinese foreign minister made reference to the improvement of ties between the two countries and the opening of tourist offices in Tel Aviv and Beijing.

Shamir Discusses Relations With U.S., USSR

TA0310090190 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Oct 90 p 11

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Hemi Shalev; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Shalev] What do you think about the U.S. attitude toward us now, during the Gulf crisis?

[Shamir] We would like to see more understanding for our interests. In our opinion, they also correspond with U.S. interests. Sometimes there are differences of opinion. We have not received everything we need and there are political differences of opinion. In addition to that, today, against the backdrop of the Gulf crisis, there are other problems: Some Arab countries form part of the anti-Iraq coalition and the United States does not want Israel to be too involved in this war, as this might cause crises in the anti-Iraq coalition.

We have always had problems with large-scale arms sales to Arab countries, even during the best times in relations with the United States. This has always been a bone of contention.

At the same time, I would say that the tones are not as bitter as they were before this crisis, and for understandable reasons. Before the crisis, the United States made certain efforts to appease Iraq, draw it closer—but Iraq has always been one of the countries most hostile to us and has never changed its attitude.

The issue of the PLO as a crucial factor in Israeli-U.S. relations has also been dropped. The PLO has now revealed its anti-Western, anti-American, and anti-democratic nature. I believe it will be a long while before the United States can again talk about a dialogue with it. In that respect, our relations have warmed up. The U.S. public also now better understands Israel's position vis-a-vis the Iraqi lunacy.

Yet there are other problems, for example, this business of the $400 million loan guarantee, which I believe should not have been in dispute at all; it could have been settled long ago. We need military assistance in light of the Gulf crisis. Okay, so no one disputes that, but some question the quantity and quality of the aid we require.

[Shalev] Are there no problems with the United States on the personal level?

[Shamir] No. What is this personal level anyway? In Israel, politics is always a personal reflection, but not so in international politics. I would not say that personal relations are an obstacle. Look, personally, our foreign minister has been treated very well. Our defense minister was received nicely by his U.S. counterpart. I receive messages from the U.S. President from time to time.

[Shalev] Messages, but no phone calls.

[Shamir] Because this falls within the category of 'Israeli involvement' in the Gulf conflict. Of course the United States has many more topics for discussion with Egypt, for instance, because Egypt has dispatched troops and is involved in this entire setup.

[Shalev] Do you not think that after the Gulf crisis an attempt will be made to apply some of the diplomatic lessons to our region?

[Shamir] That depends on what the lessons will be. I cannot see a determined position, either by the United States or by the Soviet Union. The United States has never supported the notion of an international conference, and in the Soviet Union, too, I have noticed recently greater acceptance of Israel's positions. Also, no terms have been appended, meaning that to date no condition has been put forward on this issue of aliyah or even, more recently, regarding upgrading the level of relations. Raising the level of relations to consular is very substantial progress, in my opinion; one that brings us very close to full diplomatic relations, the final stage before full ties.

The Netherlands will no longer have to be involved in all our diplomatic activity in the USSR, although it must be thanked for that. It has helped us there a lot for years without gaining any special benefit, simply out of human kindness.

[Shalev] Do you not think that the fact that the permanent members of the Security Council discussed our affairs only this week affects us with respect to intersuperpower coordination in the Gulf?

[Shamir] This is not the first time we are the subject of such forums. This is nothing new. There are risks and dangers in every situation, every change. We must make sure that the change is in our favor. One cannot ignore the marked improvement in our relations with the Soviet Union. This is something which is hard to gauge; after all, we have gone a long way. This is very, very great progress, no doubt. I remember the doubts that were raised on whether or not to accept the consular delegation, and I said it should be accepted even though there was reciprocity and so on. Our relations with the West—the United States and Europe—have not worsened. There are occasional differences of opinion. There is occasional progress in relations with the Third World.

[Shalev] Perhaps this is a golden opportunity for a political initiative?

[Shamir] The truth is that we will have to deal with it more intensively after the crisis is resolved. As long as it remains unresolved, any move can wreak havoc even if the original intention is the opposite.

[Shalev] Perhaps we can take unilateral actions?

[Shamir] Look at what happens today among the Palestinian public. This fanaticism is something that blocks, something that shuts out other things. It cannot come as a surprise because we know that unfortunately the extreme hatred toward Israel has so far been this public's chief motivation: hostility and pro-Iraqi ecstasy which is beyond comprehension. This can only be explained by that irrational hatred. What you see today in Jordan is that the economic situation is very bad, very serious, but the king was never more popular there—all because he sided with Iraq.

This trend has not stopped to this very day. It is an anti-Jewish, anti-Israeli line which opposes an independent Israeli entity in Eretz Yisra'el, or the Middle East for that matter, and it has prevailed since the beginning of Zionism. Whether you like it or not, these phenomena automatically hark back to World War II. It was an Arab element that was the standard-bearer of Palestinian aspirations under Hitler's shadow: It was the mufti. Then, when 'Abd-al-Nasir raised the banner against Israel's existence, al-Shuqayri [founder of the PLO] was close behind. Today, when this campaign is spearheaded by Saddam Husayn, 'Arafat is right there. Like it or not, you can trace that line with all its milestones, and it is sad, very sad. But this has been the reality in the Middle East to this very day. It must not be accepted; it must be dealt with.

[Shalev] Do you accept the parallelism between Saddam and Hitler?

[Shamir] All parallelisms are problematic. In history, there is no complete identity. This is one type, and that is another. But in terms of the unqualified and unmitigated hatred toward Israel or the desire to destroy it, they are part of the same phenomenon.

[Shalev] What is Israel's situation right now in terms of its involvement in the Gulf conflict?

[Shamir] If one analyzes them rationally, Saddam Husayn's declarations are merely meant to drag and introduce Israel forcibly into this conflict, in which Israel is not at all involved. The crisis did not erupt because of Israel. Saddam says from time to time, apart from his fairy tales about Israeli participation in the U.S. deployment—actually, he says all the time that if he is attacked by the United States, he will attack Israel. The desire and intention behind this is clear: to involve Israel in order to break the Arab coalition against him and put Egypt, Syria, and Saudi Arabia in the impossible situation of being forced to appear as Israel's allies. Otherwise why would he do it? Does he want to open another front?

[Shalev] Will we manage to stay out?

[Shamir] We hope so, which is why our policy advocates nonintervention in this crisis. We do not want to make things easier for him; we do not want to play into his hands.

[Shalev] Before the arrival of the new immigrants you used to talk about them as reserves for settlement in the territories.

[Shamir] That is very true.

[Shalev] Yet now a situation has arisen in which the settlement of immigrants in the territories and their absorption have become two conflicting interests.

[Shamir] In the annals of a nation not everything passes smoothly; there are all sorts of unexpected things. The Soviets suddenly demanded, as a condition for letting the Jews leave, that we not move them to the controversial territories. We acquiesced, only to get the immigrants. I hope that with time this proviso will be scrapped. I do not connect the two issues. No one says that they should be the ones to go there....

[Shalev] And the Americans?

[Shamir] That is unrelated to aliyah. They make every financial assistance conditional upon it not being used in those areas.

[Shalev] Perhaps Israel should withdraw its request for the loan guarantee?

[Shamir] No, no. First of all, Congress has already decided on it. Four hundred million dollars is a substantial sum of money. Of course, compared to our needs it is not much, but it is still a large sum.

[Shalev] Are you annoyed with the Americans for their attitude toward this matter?

[Shamir] I am not pleased. But why talk about annoyance? It is their money, and in policy this sentiment plays no role. One should put aside any anger and take action to obtain one's goals. I hope we get it and deal with the receipt of the loans. We need international credit from U.S. banks, to which a U.S. Government loan guarantee is the key. Sometimes it is a key without which you can receive nothing.

[Shalev] As long as aliyah continues, does the issue of settlement in the territories diminish?

[Shamir] These are two unrelated issues. But let me say this: Aliyah is our topmost priority. There are a lot of important issues.

[Shalev] One more question on aliyah: The Ethiopian Government has been holding 17,000 Jews hostage, really, for a few months. Why hasn't this raised an outcry?

[Shamir] This will not help in this case, but we are taking action. There are months when several hundred of them arrive, such as last month, although this is not much. It is not as if there is a permanent freeze. Ethiopia is in a special situation, fraught with internal strife. It is a country struggling for survival and it is very difficult to maintain normal contacts with all the local institutions, which have to contend with horrible problems of famine, war, and disease. We are trying to get the Jews out, we have not despaired, just as we never gave up before. I hope we will be able to make it possible for those Jews to leave, but we do not think that wailing will help here.

Ethiopia receives no foreign aid. At the time it received a lot of assistance from the USSR, but that country is currently incapable of extending any aid. Other countries likewise are not forthcoming. The Jews there are in a serious economic situation and we help sustain them. We are seeking all sorts of ways to bring them here. Right now I see no alternative to quiet diplomacy. We are doing everything we can. [passage omitted]

[Shalev] There have been signs that the coalition is coming apart at the seams, and you addressed this business during this week's cabinet session.

[Shamir] I do not think that anything has happened to disrupt the cabinet's united mode of operation or perspective. Sometimes there are elements in ministers' behavior that call for greater coordination. What happened just recently in the United States did not actually reflect a contradiction in the ministers' remarks. Each one of them perhaps emphasized a different angle. There is no competition. Each one has his sphere to handle.

[Shalev] It seems that sometimes the emotions within your party are stronger than among the other parties.

[Shamir] First of all this is discernible in all the parties, where personal rivalries exist and sometimes affect more important interests. I would not use these terms to describe us right now. I am not worried.

[Shalev] And so you will also not take any action on the matter?

[Shamir] I talk to the ministers, I point out that one must not exceed the line of cooperation. Yet the issues are not grave and no damage has been caused by the steps.

[Shalev] Possibly damage to our good name.

[Shamir] And still we make progress. There has been an improvement with the Soviet Union. In the United States we are enjoying a better image. This, in effect, is the ultimate balance of things.

Chief of Staff Says Iraqi Gas Attack Unlikely

TA0210140890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] The chief of the general staff estimates that the probability of Iraq employing chemical or conventional weapons is very low. Therefore, gas mask distribution will last several weeks.

Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen reports that the chief of staff, who attended today's session of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, was asked what will happen if Arabs of the territories use the gas masks in intifadah-related incidents. He replied that there are answers to this, but refused to specify.

Our correspondent 'Ofra Nehmad reports that residents of the territories will receive gas masks at the same time as the Green Line population. The territories residents will be asked to pay a symbolic price of 40 shekels [approximately $19] per kit, the intention being to make the residents realize that the mask is an item to be kept and guarded. Welfare cases will be exempt from payment.

Brigadier General Freddy Zakh, deputy coordinator of activities in the territories, has said that the Civil Administration is at present ready to convert the government hospitals in the territories into gas casualty treatment facilities.

Fewer Arabs Reported Killed by IDF in Territories

TA0310104890 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 3 Oct 90 p 3

[Report by Yoram Bar]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Dan Shomron provided the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on 2 October with statistics on the number of fatalities in the territories in the past 18 months based on biannual figures: April-October 1989, October-April 1990, and April-October 1990.

During the first period, 154 people were killed by IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops, in the second 86 were killed, and in the third there were 42 fatalities. In contrast to that downward trend there is an increase in the number of fatalities in the territories caused by other Arabs: during the first period there were 63, in the second there were 69, and in the third 86. [passage omitted]

Arab Fugitive Killed by Security Forces

TA0210163490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Riots in the village of 'Isawiyah, near Mount Scopus in Jerusalem, continue. Dozens of villagers who hurled stones and set tires on fire were dispersed with rubber bullets and tear gas. During the day, the police erected a dirt mound at the main entrance to the village. A Jerusalem police spokesman told our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum that since the entrance had become a site from which stones were constantly thrown at passersby, vehicles, and policemen, the police decided to block it indefinitely.

In Janin, the security forces shot and killed an Arab youth who had been sought for a long time. Army sources said he tried to escape while being arrested. His name was Mahir 'Aqil, and he had escaped from the Megiddo Prison some eight months ago.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that a 16-year-old youth from the Hebron District village of Yattah today died of wounds in Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital. He was critically wounded five days ago.

Major Riot Follows

TA0210201490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Two youths were shot dead by IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers in a major riot that began in Janin after security forces killed an escaped prisoner wanted by the Army. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that three other Janin residents were wounded as the rioters were being dispersed.

Arab sources told our correspondent that the scope of today's riots was similar to that of the first days of the uprising in the territories.

Arab Paper Sees 'Nothing New' in Bush Address

TA0210184490 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 2 Oct 90 p 7

[Editorial: "Bush-Mitterrand, Enormous Differences"]

[Text] There is an enormous difference between French President Francois Mitterrand's speech before the UN General Assembly a few days ago and yesterday's address by U.S. President George Bush.

It is true that both of them called for Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait, and agreed on the need for Iraq to do this without precondition, yet the French president talked clearly about the Palestinian problem and the need to find a solution to it that would allow the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination and the establishment of their state.

The U.S. President, however, talked in general terms and with the utmost ambiguity about the Arab-Israeli conflict when he said: "Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait would pave the way for a settlement of the Middle East problem." As is being observed, he failed to mention the Palestinian problem, the rights of the Palestinian people, and the necessity for Israel to withdraw from the Arab lands it occupied in 1967.

Concerning the Gulf crisis, President Bush was very clear. He said: "Iraq's unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait might create an opportunity for Iraq and Kuwait to settle their differences permanently. This applies to the other Gulf states."

The U.S. President did not refer to the principle of negotiations with Iraq, nor did he mention any of the initiatives proposed by Iraq, and said nothing about his readiness to pull foreign forces out of the Arabian Gulf states in the event the crisis were to end, nor did he even link this to the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Perhaps the tone of President Bush's address at the UN General Assembly differed from the previous tone, but as far as content is concerned a careful study of the address proves that it contained nothing new.

Any statesman realizes that talk about the possibility of a peaceful solution to conflicts in any area of the world must include negotiations. The U.S. Administration is endeavoring to create a new precedent in international relations when it persists in refusing to conduct negotiations with Iraq, or even in refusing to provide an opportunity for others to act as mediators, divorced from threats, promises, and the clash of arms.

A diplomatic solution to the Gulf crisis represents the only realistic way out of the crisis for the region and its peoples. This does not occur by eliminating the instruments and channels of politics and diplomacy. We believe that talk about Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait without prior talk about the withdrawal of foreign forces from the Gulf—or at least without linking the two to a timetable—and above all without accepting the principles of negotiation and dialogue, will be talk devoid of content.

AL-FAJR Urges PLO To Rethink Strategies

TA0210164690 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 1 Oct 90 p 4

[By Managing Editor Mahir Abu-Khatir]

[Excerpts] Whether or not Iraq's invasion of Kuwait will benefit the Palestinian cause remains a matter for discussion. But one good outcome of the invasion is that it has led a number of Arab countries to expose their real faces and feelings toward the Palestinian issue. It is not that the Palestinians did not know how these countries felt about them; they were just never honest enough to express these feelings openly.

These new developments and alliances demand from the Palestinians immediate rethinking and replanning. A new strategy for national liberation should be enacted—one which takes into account that the little pressure the Palestinians were hoping would come from some powerful Arab countries on the United States, to meet their demands for a just settlement, has vanished. In other words, the Palestinians now should know they are on their own like never before.

The Palestinian cause may never again win the support of the present governments of Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia or the rest of the Gulf states. Egypt is leading a fierce campaign to discredit the PLO and its leadership. It is also leading the anti-Iraq Arab camp by sending thousands of its troops to the Saudi-Iraqi border.

Many Palestinians and other Arab nationals, even Egyptians, are actually baffled by this Egyptian government stand. We understand the United States' interest in the Gulf and this explains why it is massing all its troops there. We also understand the concern of Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states. But what could be Egypt's excuse for wanting to fight Iraq and the Palestinians with so much intensity? What could be Syria's excuse for wanting to contain Iraq and the Palestinians?

Clearly, Egypt and Syria have their own little interests. Syria wants the United States' support in preventing Israel from interfering in its Lebanon affairs. Syria got this promise during U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's last visit to Damascus. Immediately after the visit, the pro-Syria government in Lebanon began talking about forcibly removing the Iraqi-backed Michel 'Awn and his supporters from their little enclave in East Beirut. [passage omitted]

Egypt was on its way to asserting its prominence in the Arab world when Iraq invaded Kuwait. This invasion, however, undid many equations. Egypt, seeing the strong U.S. reaction to the invasion, found in it a prime opportunity to eliminate, rather than flirt with, its rival, the most popular leader Saddam Husayn. It therefore sided with the United States in order to gain the backing of the rich Gulf countries and the United States and its Western allies. Egypt is calculating that Saddam Husayn will lose the battle in light of the massive opposition to his military adventure in Kuwait. Husayn's defeat is bound to stifle his allies, such as the PLO, and this in the end will leave Egypt, backed by the would-be victors, as the uncontested power in the Arab world. Until this happens, Egypt is being generously paid for its efforts and is happy, at least for the moment, with this part of the deal.

With these facts, and with the PLO losing the support of Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia and the rest of the Gulf states because of its pro-Iraqi stand, the PLO cannot expect that the backing it received in international forums and in the United States will continue. For the PLO to keep and reinforce the gains it made through years of military and diplomatic initiatives, it will have to rethink new strategies for struggle.

One suggestion the PLO can enact immediately is to bring the Palestinian question up before the U.N. Security Council. It can take the excuse of what is happening now in the Gaza Strip to call for an immediate session. The PLO should come up with strong resolutions in defense of the Palestinians' struggle and rights. The United States and the other members will find it difficult to vote against this resolution because a negative vote would hurt their argument against Iraq's occupation of Kuwait. A vote against Palestinian rights in the United Nations would embarrass those voting in the negative.

After the PLO wins an affirmative vote, it can demand that the same pressures the United Nations is applying against Iraq be applied to Israel. If the United Nations is sincere in its opposition to the acquisition of land by force, it will have to take a stand against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

A Palestinian resolution at the United Nations will be the right litmus test for the international organization. Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the international reaction it spurred can serve as the right forum for the Palestinians to regain their usurped rights. And they can do it alone, without any help from rich and pro-U.S. Arab governments.

Primakov To Visit Amman; Baghdad Ruled Out

JN0310082190 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 3 Oct 90 pp 1, 16

[By Basim Sakkijha]

[Text] AL-RA'Y has learned that Yevgeniy Primakov, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's adviser,[title as published] will arrive in Amman today to meet with ranking Jordanian officials.

Soviet diplomatic sources expect that Primakov's talks with Jordanian officials will focus on developments in the Gulf crisis. The sources added that the Soviet envoy, who is one of the most important advisers on Middle East affairs, is the most senior Soviet official to visit the region since the eruption of the Gulf crisis.

It is not known whether Primakov will visit other Arab states, but the same sources ruled out the possibility of his visiting Baghdad.

The sources said that the Soviet Union has started to view seriously the linkage of all the problems in the Middle East, particularly the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Kuwait crisis.

Delivers Gorbachev Message

JN0310142990 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received a message from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev dealing with the Gulf crisis and the efforts under way to find a peaceful settlement to this and other Mideast crises.

The message was delivered by Mr. Yevgeniy Primakov, the personal adviser of the Soviet president and member of the USSR Presidential Council, when his majesty received him today at the Royal Hashemite Court.

His Majesty King Husayn affirmed Jordan's concern for a settlement and said that Jordan shared the Soviet belief that it would be dangerous to resort to violence as a means to settle regional and international disputes.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent; the prime minister; the chief of the Royal Court; and his majesty's political adviser.

Soviet Union Criticized Over Ties With Israel

JN0210122390 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 2 Oct 90 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Perestroyka has Started Encroaching on our Pan-Arab Rights"]

[Text] The first principle on which international relations are based is mutual respect. And on this basis, there should be respect for the right of any state to break off or restore relations with other states at the time and on the level it deems fit. Therefore, we restrain ourselves from opposing the Soviet Union's right to establish consular relations with Israel, especially since the Soviet Union is a superpower which for decades was considered the first and foremost ally and supporter of Arab countries and which understood our pan-Arab and national issues. It paid a great price for this understanding, although it did sometimes complain that it did not receive an equivalent amount of understanding, sympathy, and Arab loyalty.

The decision to establish consular relations with Tel Aviv, however, coming at a time like this, calls for an all-out pan-Arab and religious confrontation between the nationalist forces on the one hand, and the forces of occupation and invasion on the other hand; and this calls for asking a big question—a very big one.

Perhaps it is just another side issue; but it is rather difficult to believe that it was merely arbitrary and not planned. The decision to establish consular relations with Tel Aviv came at the same time as Moscow's resumption of diplomatic ties with Gulf oil [Saudi Arabia], even if the initiative on this latter issue was not Moscow's.

As for the wider framework that justifies this questioning, it is that the resumption and expansion of Soviet diplomatic and consular ties is taking place with the parties that are clearly and flagrantly leading the campaign to deal Iraq a wounding military strike and are using economic weapons against countries and peoples that stand alongside Iraq, because it is considered the vanguard of pan-Arab and religious confrontation in defense of the independent political will and its tools of democracy and oil.

None of the national forces would ever have imagined that they would place such huge question marks over the first traditional friend of Arab causes—and perhaps the only one. However, the successive acts of Soviet perestroyka, carried out with an insistence and progression that has reached the point of giving away the secrets of the Iraqi Army to Washington, leaves no room for doubt that the Moscow we used to know is no more. Yes, it has changed, as has everything in the world. And it has every right to do so. This change, however, has,it seems, swept many other things, such as our legitimate human rights, out of the way. There is, however, nothing to prevent us from admonishing our friends when some of them exceed the limit.

Bush Speech Called 'Step in Right Direction'

JN0310113390 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Oct 90 pp 1, 14

[Editorial: "A Small American Step"]

[Text] U.S. President George Bush took a small step in the right direction when, in his speech to the United Nations, he stopped escalating the crisis in the Arabian Gulf, especially since those calling for war had earlier predicted a threatening speech expressing ideas that would have greatly escalated the situation.

Although the change remains confined to language and has not made its way into the essence of the U.S. public position on the crisis, we view such a change as representative of a small, but cautious move on a long road that could lead in the end to creating the appropriate atmosphere for a peaceful settlement without the language of threats and warnings that President Bush has used before.

We also view the U.S. President's talk of a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestine question that came in his speech to the United Nations, very positively. This is in spite of the fact that the master of the White House came nowhere near the desired concurrent process of linking all issues of occupation in the region, along the lines of French President Mitterrand's initiative, not to mention President Saddam Husayn's initiative of 12 August.

Perhaps the atmosphere of relative detente that has set in after President Bush's speech will help later in coming closer and closer to the subject of linking all existing crises in the region, especially since such a link could provide the appropriate opportunity and objectivity for ending the Gulf crisis and averting its repercussions, which could lead to a third world war.

As we express our satisfaction over all small political steps taken here or there in calming the situation and finding the appropriate political means to settle the Gulf crisis, we continue to recall with respect and pride the position maintained by Jordan throughout the crisis—a position through which we have called for permitting good sense to dominate and relying on wisdom and patience while many around us beat the war drums, and continue to do so, hoping war will take place tomorrow rather than the day after.

Paper Says Bush Using Crisis Against Countries

JN0310163990 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 3 Oct 90 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "It Is Our Last War"]

[Text] The method by which the United States has dealt with the Gulf crisis and rallied the other major powers through pressure and lures has transferred this crisis from one between Iraq and Kuwait to one between the Arabs and imperialism. Neither Washington, the Zionist entity, nor London is able to conceal the real truth behind the method used to deal with the Gulf crisis, which is to reimpose hegemony on Arab decisionmaking and the Arab order and to force the Arabs to become the victim of international detente, U.S.-European struggle, and American fears of the Japanese economy.

The Americans do not deal with the Arab homeland as a group of countries but as one country that must not advance, realize its dignity, and control its decisionmaking, resources, and role. So, they are not massing their military forces, passing UN Security Council resolutions, and rejecting dialogue with Iraq out of concern for Kuwait, but out of a desire to destroy the entire Arab homeland. In every inter-Arab dispute, Washington, London, and the Zionist entity play one role; namely, fostering the dispute and pushing it toward the point of explosion. But when there is a dispute between the Arabs and another party, these imperialist and colonialist forces adopt a stance against the Arabs and provide the other party with the means of power, arrogance, and aggression.

In defending his mistake prior to the coming congressional elections, showing concern for his party, and paving the way for a second term in the White House, Bush is wagering that Iraq will respond to his terms without dialogue, negotiations, or exchange of views. However, the armed invasion of the Gulf region and the continuous threats to destroy Iraq's military power and advancement have made Iraq realize that it is waging the nation's last battle, which is more important and precious than Bush's own battles and wagers. Furthermore, Bush knows that his victory in the Gulf crisis, control of Arab oil, and blow to pan-Arab advancement is his means to face united Europe and impose his terms on the USSR and Japan. Thus, the Arab homeland would be an arena for a war of interests rather than morals.

What is left is the fate of the Zionist entity, which would depend on the outcome of the Gulf crisis. Pan-Arab advancement and its definite victories would be the beginning of the end of this entity. Thus, we see the entity extending its paw into the fire to secure its share. We believe that a war covering our entire region will leave nothing behind for Washington to usurp. The Europeans would be the first losers if they continue their subservience to the United States. As for the Soviet Union, our loss would only be a small part of its own loss now that it has turned its back on all the values, principles, and stands that made it a superpower and started endorsing every decision made by the United States.

King Husayn Discusses Crisis, Effects on Jordan

JN0210184690 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Recorded portion in English]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has welcomed Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's visit to Jordan which will begin tomorrow. His majesty praised the close relations of friendship between Jordan and Japan, which are entrenched in the two countries and its peoples. During a meeting with representatives of the Japanese mass media at the Royal Hashemite Court this evening, his majesty reviewed the dimensions and developments of the Gulf problem. Responding to journalists' questions, his majesty said:

[Begin video recording] [Husayn] My understanding is that Iraq is willing and ready to discuss this problem and all other Arab problems within the Arab context, but is clearly unwilling to do so facing a military threat to itself and to its future. I warned from the beginning that condemnation and provocation and intimidation would not work. And this is precisely where we are at this moment. Iraq is also willing, as far as I can understand, to deal with this problem within an Arab and international context, but not uniquely this problem—however, in a process that could undertake to try to resolve all problems in the area, dealing with this problem and moving on to dealing with other problems. I believe that two of the major ones are obviously this crisis, its causes, and reasons. Another one is obviously the Palestinian problem that has awaited for 23 years to receive the attention of the world and to be dealt with. And there again Security Council Resolution 242, the basis and foundation of any adequate resolution of the Arab-Israeli problem, starts with the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by war derived from the Charter of the United Nations. Many within this area are puzzled why it has taken 23 years to this time without any sign of movement on the Arab-Israeli problem, that it took so little to mobilize such a force and to take to so many Security Council resolutions that might have adversely affected the chances for an Arab attempt to resolve the problem between Iraq and Kuwait within the Arab context. The Palestinian problem also has related problems in terms of Lebanon and....[rephrases] There are problems regarding the area and the region as a whole.

[(Kamra)] Your Majesty, my name is Mr. (Kamra); I am TV correspondent for Asahi National Broadcasting. I have two questions. The first question: So, I would like to receive your majesty's special proposal or your point of view to what is most important steps of the next stage for the peaceful dialogue and the solution within your own Arab state. How is the possibility or not? And the second question, when you have meeting with our prime minister, Mr. Toshiki Kaifu, so what do you expect of the offer to special Arab tasks for the Japanese Government?

[Husayn] Regarding the Arab solutions to, or contribution, or input to resolve this particular crisis or indeed any other in the future, I believe that it is important for Arabs to continue to persevere in attempting to address the problems that face them. And here I find it interesting that my readings are such as to give me the impression that the Arab people are probably closer together than many believe. If problems exist at higher levels of authority, this is the unusual and it is my hope that this can be addressed in the times ahead in an adequate way. As regards my efforts, humble as they are, I have traveled throughout the Arab world and amongst those who chose from the outset to try to search for an Arab solution and those who did not immediately adopt a position causing them to be unable to contribute towards such a solution, and my dialogue with them continues.

We in Jordan have, in fact, been punished, it seems, for fearing for the future of the region and the world. The difference is not such between us and between others within the entire Arab region over the acquisition of territory by war or the annexation of territory. Our position is very very clear and has also been very, very clear regarding the adherence of this country, despite enormous difficulties and a very heavy price that it is paying, to Security Council resolutions, our involvement with the humanitarian aspect of the problem, our living in a war zone with all that implies in terms of our economy and the very heavy premiums imposed on us, be it for our exports or imports into this country by sea or by air. On the humanitarian level, the problems are mounting and continuing of having to feed and give health care and comfort to hundreds of thousands of people who have come through and continue to come through without much help, although we appreciate all that we have received so far, and to help them on their way to their respective destinations. But this has not been a problem affecting only other nationals. It is a problem of our having to cope to date with over 100,000 Jordanians that have lost everything, be it in Kuwait or who are coming out in greater numbers from Saudi Arabia and from the Gulf states, and Jordanians in this case are Jordanians from the East Bank as well as Jordanians of Palestinian origin from the occupied territories who carry Jordanian passports. How far this is going I honestly do not know, but there is a problem and it is a serious one and we are, to a degree, almost in a state of siege.

[Husayn continues] We are paying a very heavy price for adhering to our principles and for trying to preserve peace and serve the cause of peace and stability in this region. I believe many things will become clearer to people with the passage of time. I am proud of what we have attempted to achieve and will be proud and satisfied when we have succeeded. But my pride is in the people of Jordan, and in the fact that in an atmosphere of democracy and complete freedom, and in the face of great hardship, we have come together as never before. And their voice is a live voice, and their sharing is equal of the burdens imposed by the terrible times we are passing. They stand tall, and their heads are high.

On the other hand, regarding the visit of the prime minister, I have been looking forward to the pleasure of receiving him here in Jordan, as are all of us here in this country, not only as a prime minister of Japan, but as a man of the world, concerned and interested in this area, in this region, and in its problems, and also concerned with the cause of bilateral relations between our two countries, that have grown and developed over the years. We will talk to him—and he has given us the opportunity through his visit, God willing—in complete candor, which is the only way between friends, about the concerns regarding the present and regarding the future on the bilateral level and regarding the region. And we are very appreciative and very very grateful for what we have already sensed in the way of attention to Jordan as it pays the price for its commitment to honor and peace and the cause of future generations in this region and in the world—attention that we have felt was given to us by the Japanese Government and by the people of Japan. I believe that the visit of the prime minister is a very important landmark. It is one of the reasons why I have remained in this country of late in preparation for this visit, and I look forward to welcoming the prime minister with great anticipation. He will have a very, very hearty welcome. Thank you, Sir.

[Unidentified newsman] Is he going to meet Iraqi Vice Prime Minister Ramadan here in Amman? Thank you.

[Husayn] Sir, regarding your third [as heard] question about possible meetings between the prime minister and high-level Iraqi representatives here in Amman, I am not aware of any plans in that direction. At least this is the answer I can give you now.

Well, may I thank you very very much indeed for all your time and all your patience. And welcome to Jordan, I hope you'll feel at home and amongst your friends, and in a way as much as I have always been made to feel whenever I've been in Japan. Thank you, sir, very very much and welcome. [end recording]

Ma'an Council Dissolved After Mayor's Saudi Trip

JN0110112790 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 1 Oct 90 p 3

[By P. V. Vivekanand]

[Text] Amman—The Cabinet decision to dissolve the municipal council of Ma'an was prompted by an unauthorised visit to Saudi Arabia by the southern town's mayor.

The minister of municipal and rural affairs and the environment, 'Abd-al-Karim al-Dughmi, confirmed that the dissolution, which was announced by the Cabinet Saturday, came after it was found that the mayor, Musa Khalaf Fayyad, had visited eastern Saudi Arabian town of Tabuk earlier this month. But the minister rejected reports that a pro-Saudi stance of the mayor had resulted in the dismissal of the council.

"The visit was made without prior approval from the ministry," which is in charge of all municipal and rural councils in the country, the minister told the Jordan Times.

Fayyad visited Tabuk in mid-September and following the visit he published advertisements in local newspapers expressing "profound thanks" for the hospitality accorded to him by the governor of Tabuk. The trip and the expressions of thanks, which came at a time when obvious strains appeared n Jordanian-Saudi relations over the Gulf crisis, had puzzled many.

Al-Dughmi said he could not confirm or deny whether Fayyad was detained for two days upon his return from Saudi Arabia. Other officials who spoke on condition of anonymity said Fayyad was "questioned" over "certain administrative" problems. Repeated phone calls to Fayyad in Ma'an went unanswered Sunday.

Security sources said at least two Saudi nationals were detained in the town, which lies about 150 kilometres north from the Saudi border, after they were found "involved in questionable activities among the local community."

No official at the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Amman could be reached for comment.

Several residents of Ma'an, contacted by the Jordan Times, said the Ma'anis, who have traditionally close links with the Saudis across the border, resented what one of them described as "Saudi interference in Jordan's internal affairs."

"We are very much Jordanian and we will remain so," said a shopkeeper reached over the phone. "If anyone thinks that we could be influenced by wealth, then let him rethink his plans," he said.

Al-Dughmi rejected reports that the dismissal of the council was related to any "pro-Saudi campaign" in Ma'an.

"Even if the mayor had visited Iraq, Syria or any other country in his official capacity, but withiout prior permission from the ministry, the same action would have been taken," al-Dughmi told the Jordan Times.

Saturday's Cabinet decision said the council was dissolved and an ad hoc committee was named to run the town's affairs until the expiry of the term of the dissolved council. Al-Dughmi said the committee would serve for about two years before new elections would be held for a new municipal council for the town of about 35,000 residents.

Saudi Arabia cut off oil supplies to Jordan and reduced the number of diplomats and staff at the Jordanian Embassy in what was seen as Riyadh's expression of anger at Jordan's position vis-a-vis the Gulf crisis, further compounded by Amman hosting a pan-Arab conference which issued a hardline statement and Jordanian media criticising the Saudi leadership. But Jordan has sought to play down the rift, opting for quiet diplomacy in its relations with Saudi Arabia.

Senior officials have said that the government does not intend to retaliate for the Saudi expulsion of Jordan diplomats.

Diplomats Return After 'Illogical' Expulsion

JN0210144890 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 2 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Amman—The first group of Jordanian diplomats from the Jordanian Embassy in Riyadh and the consulate in Jeddah arrived in Amman yesterday. The last group of diplomats requested by Saudi authorities to leave will arrive next Thursday.

Jordanian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Dr. Nasir al-Batayinah, who is currently in Jordan, said that 10 of 34 Jordanian diplomats will remain in Saudi Arabia to conduct business at the embassy and the consulate and to serve the Jordanian community there.

Dr. al-Batayinah told AL-DUSTUR that by the time the final group of diplomats arrives, all offices of military, cultural, information, and labor attaches in the embassy and the consulate will have been closed as a result of the illogical Saudi measure.

Saudi-Bound Trucks Permitted To Transit Jordan

JN0210193890 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1835 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] In response to a question by the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY on the halting and turning back of trucks carrying Jordanian cargo from Saudi borders, Dr. Mahdi al-Farhan, director general of the Customs Department, said suspicions on this matter have repeated themselves. This prompted customs authorities to stop trucks coming from Syria en route to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states.

After holding several diplomatic contacts, including one between the prime minister and Syrian Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, it was decided to allow trucks to transit Jordanian territory out of a commitment to the freedom of the transit trade, concern for safeguarding the interests of all parties, and cordial relations with all states, especially sisterly ones, until the situation is cleared up.

Party Denounces Saudi-U.S. 'Interference'

JN2609200990 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 26 Sep 90 pp 1, 14

[Text] Amman—The Jordanian People's Democratic Party [JPDP] (independent) has denounced the hostile stands and measures that the United States and the Saudi Kingdom have adopted against Jordan because of its pan-Arab stance against the U.S. and foreign military presence on the territory and waters of the Arabian Gulf and Arabian Peninsula, and because of Jordan's call for a political solution to the Gulf crisis within the Arab framework on a peaceful, negotiable basis preserving the Arab nation's supreme interests and the legitimate rights of the disputing parties.

In a statement issued yesterday, the party said: Following the flagrant interference in Jordan's internal affairs by a number of U.S. officials and their statements that the U.S. Government was displeased with the convocation in Amman of the Arab Popular Forces Conference and its resolutions expressing the Arab masses' rejection of the U.S. invasion and aggression against the Arab nation, interests, and rights, the U.S. Government intervened to block the UN resolution to extend financial compensations to Jordan, and the Saudi authorities undertook a number of hostile measures and steps against Jordan, stopping the Saudi oil flow to the country without warning and under flimsy pretexts, and deporting several Jordanian diplomats, including the labor attache in the Jordanian Embassy in Riyadh.

The Jordanian masses, which have taken note of the suspect U.S.-Saudi agreement on the timing of these measures and stands—a fact which demonstrates the existence of a premeditated U.S.-Saudi plan to escalate pressure on Jordan, make life difficult for it, and punish it because of its pan-Arab stands toward the Gulf crisis—voice their condemnation and rejection of these hostile, blatant acts. They measure and express their anger and indignation at the fact that Saudi Arabia has become the tail and the satellite of U.S. imperialism and has directly involved itself in hostile campaigns and an economic siege against Jordan in order to force it to retreat from its pan-Arab stand against the imperialist invasion and the foreign military intervention in the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf.

While hailing the official Jordanian rejection of U.S.-Saudi interference, pressures, and measures, the JPDP affirms that these U.S.-Saudi political and economic pressures will not prevent our heroic Jordanian people from continuing to support fraternal Iraq in confronting the U.S. imperialist invasion and aggression and their endeavors to reach a peaceful, just, and honorable solution to the Gulf crisis and to all the region's disputes and problems based on international legitimacy.

Our people, who have great experience in struggle and battles against the Zionist enemy, the imperialist alliances, and reactionary Arab pressures, will confront the hostile policy of U.S. imperialism and the reactionaries affiliated with it with yet a stronger will and firmer conviction in our people's pan-Arab stands. No power on earth will change our people's stand and the hostile siege and pressures will not succeed in weakening their firmness and steadfastness.

The JPDP appeals to the various sectors of Jordanian masses everywhere to confront this U.S.-Saudi onslaught against our steadfast country with increased unity of ranks and the mobilization of all their immense resources.

The JPDP appeals to the Jordanian Government to adopt a national program for economic steadfastness which should be drawn up and implemented with the participation of the nationalist forces. This will be aimed at making the Jordanian economy more reliant on Jordanian resources and capabilities by increasing production, promoting the role of the national industry and agriculture in the national economy, reducing consumption and imports, and curbing government and public spending.

Paper Lambastes UN Resolution, Soviet Stance

JN2709101490 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 27 Sep 90 p 1

[Editorial: "The UN Security Council, A U.S. Toy"]

[Text] Although the latest UN Security Council resolution did not come as a surprise, neither in form nor in context, the impulsive way in which it was issued provides conclusive evidence against this international body, which has become a toy in the hands of the United States of America.

In light of the major disequilibrium in the international balance of power, the Security Council has become Washington's cat's-paw to pass whatever resolutions it wishes to pass according to the U.S. desire and the standards set by the President Bush administration, especially for the permanent members of the Council.

Nothing can better demonstrate this serious disequilibrium that has affected the most supreme body, which the world community agreed to set up 45 years ago, than the disgraceful stand taken by Shevardnadze, the foreign minister of a country, which, until recently, was considered one of the big powers.

If the U.S. master had prepared a speech for a foreign minister of one of the banana republics, that minister would have departed from the text in order to appear more respectful for his audience; and, he would have appeared in a more dignified manner than the Soviet foreign minister.

In face of this, we will not be surprised if one day the U.S. secretary of state calls his counterparts, especially his Soviet counterpart, to meet urgently and within the framework of the Security Council itself to sign a U.S. draft resolution, prepared in advance, demanding that Arabs and Muslims find somewhere else to face when praying other than the holy Ka'bah. [in Mecca]

The position which the new world order has reached under the absolute U.S. hegemony has depreciated the UN Security Council and destroyed the credibility of this body that was obstructed in the past by the U.S. veto, which turned it into a cat's-paw to terrorize the Iraqi people and impose the U.S. hegemony on the post-Gorbachevism world.

Muslim Brotherhood Holds 'Massive Speech Rally'

JN2809195990 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The Office of the Islamic Movement, the Muslim Brotherhood, staged a massive speech rally this evening in the city of Irbid, during which speakers focused on the current situation in the region in the light of the Gulf crisis. Our reporter for parliamentary affairs has the details.

[Begin recording] Members of the Islamic Bloc in the House of Representatives participated in this rally. They reviewed the current circumstances of the Arab region and foreign ambitions in the Islamic nation.

The first to speak was Deputy Dr. Ahmad al-Kawfahi. He called on Muslims to adhere to the principles of the true Islamic religion. He said that adhering to this religion and its sublime principles is the basis of the Muslims' victory, their dignity, and strength. He added that the Islamic Movement in Jordan has set up a number of committees to support the Palestinian peoples' intifadah. He also urged all citizens to support this intifadah and the steadfastness of the kinfolk in the occupied Arab territories, adding that the intifadah epitomizes the meaning of jihad as advocated by our true Islamic religion.

Deputy Yusuf al-'Azm said that the United States and its allies are seeking to undermine the position of the Islamic nation because they view it as a threat and think its strength poses a threat to their interests. He added that the strong Muslim nation has broken the fetters of humiliation and subservience and marched forward seeking the right to an honorable life. He praised developments in relations between Iraq and Iran, saying that this is a true strength for Islam and Muslims, and definite evidence that Muslims, as usual, become united in face of common foreign dangers. He also said that the Islamic awakening in the Islamic world has worried foreign forces. This awakening has been manifested in the raging valiant Palestinian intifadah led by the children of the stones against the Israeli provocative practices.

Deputy 'Abd-al-Mun'im Abu-Zant hailed the unified Jordanian-Palestinian stand and praised the solid national unity, which was deepened by the sons of Jordan. He prayed to God to grant victory to the Muslim mujahidin all over the world. He also reviewed the situation in the Arab world and the attempts of the United States and its allies to control Arab and Islamic territory. Deputy Abu-Zant reviewed foreign ambitions in the region, which aim at undermining the Islamic religion. He said it is a battle between right and wrong. He also said that the best example of the strength and solidity of the sons of Arabism and Islam is what is happening in the occupied Arab territories; mainly, the battle against the occupiers and the determination that rights and lands should be restored to their lawful owners.

Deputy 'Abd-al-Rahim al-'Ukur reviewed the activities of the Islamic Movement in the Governorate of Irbid and the committees it has set up to support the children of the stones. He called on citizens to cooperate with these committees so that they could succeed in their mission.

Religious groups in the Irbid Governorate presented religious songs during the rally, which was attended by more than 40,000 citizens. The speakers and attendees paid tribute to the steadfast kinfolk in the occupied territory and hailed the valiant Palestinian intifadah, which is led by the sons of the Palestinian people against the occupation and its repressive measures. This is Muhammad al-Tarawinah reporting from the city of Irbid. [end recording]

All Non-Jordanian Employees Terminated

JN0210150290 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 2 Oct 90 pp 1, 16

[Excerpt] Amman-AL-RA'Y—The government has started taking effective practical measures to control Jordan's labor market and enable unemployed Jordanians to replace foreigners. The government hopes this will help ease the problem of unemployment, which has been worsening every day since the eruption of the Gulf crisis and the subsequent harassment and job terminations of Jordanians working in the Gulf.

The cabinet agreed during its 26 September session that there is a need to terminate the services of all non-Jordanians in all municipalities, rural councils, and the Municipality of Greater Amman, regardless of their jobs. [passage omitted]

Germany Grants $127 Million To Nation

JN2609081290 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 26 Sep 90 p 1

[By JORDAN TIMES Staff Reporter Ghadir Tahir]

[Text] Amman—Jordan, one of the worst-hit countries by the Gulf crisis, Tuesday received its first public pledge of financial assistance with a West German grant of DM 200 million ($127 million).

The assistance would be available to Jordan by October after the West German parliament endorses it and the Kingdom should appropriate it before the end of the year, the counsellor at Bonn's embassy here, Mathias Meyer, told a press conference. "Jordan is relatively free as to use this aid as it sees fit," Meyers said.

The parliamentary approval for the assistance should not pose a problem but is warranted simply because the aid is not part of the regular West German government budget, the counsellor said.

The DM 200 million is part of DM 600 million package announced by Bonn to assist Jordan, Turkey and Egypt—countries hardest hit by the Gulf crisis. The aid is over and above the West German contribution of DM 420 million to a package of $2 billion announced by the European Communitry (EC) last month, he said.

The allocations of the EC assistance to the three countries has not been announced yet, and reports from Europe indicate that some of the community's 12 member states are arguing that their contributions to the multinational force were sufficient.

West Germany, which has pledged $1 billion to the American-led effort against Iraq, is committed to its pledge of DM 420 million to the EC package, according to a press release issued by the embassy here.

Bonn has also extended to Jordan DM 20 million in soft loans for commodity purchases, Meyers said. "Many countries are involved in the European Community package and so far the amount to be given to Jordan has not been decided," Meyers said. "The decision should be taken by the end of September," he added.

Jordan has said that it stands to lose $2.144 billion in the first year of the crisis and that it urgently needs $1.5 billion in grants and soft loans to grapple with the problem. Minister of Finance Basil Jardanah said that if Jordan does not receive substantial amount of aid before end of October, the Kingdom's "economy faces collapse."

Meyer said that the West German government was studying Jordan's situation and appeal. "We are trying to get as much aid as possible for Jordan," Meyers said and indicated that "substantial" assistance could be forthcoming.

"Our connections with Jordan are very close and we want to help you with this problem," Meyer said. Jordan receives the largest amount of West German assistance in per capita terms.

Meyers said the Bonn government was conducting budget discussions and aid for Jordan is under consideration in the framework of the United Nations.

Jardanah said last week that there were "very good signs" that assistance to Jordan would be coming from the Japanese and West German governments as well as the EC. He did not give any figures.

Japan has allocated $2 billion to Jordan, Turkey and Egypt to help them offset the economic losses resulting from the Gulf crisis and the imposition of mandatory United Nations sanctions against Iraq, but no specific figures or details have been announced yet. Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu is due to visit all the three countries as part of a Middle East tour next week and it is expected that formal announcements of the allocations would be made during his trip.

Norwegian Relief Supplies Arrive 30 Sep

JN3009153690 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Amman, 30 Sep (PETRA)—A Norwegian cargo plane loaded with relief supplies from the Norwegian Red Cross [NRC] to the Jordanian Red Crescent [JRC] arrived in Amman today as contribution to the relief of evacuees from Iraq.

Mr. Carmen Mira [name as received], representative of the NRC and member of the mission of experts of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent League, which coordinates activities with the JRC, said the shipment consists of 11 tonnes of milk. He said the plane will be used to transport 120 Egyptians home as a contribution from the NRC to the repatriation of evacuees to their countries.

The NRC sent three shipments of relief supplies to the JRC in response to the latter's appeal on 29 August.

King Receives Message From Mexican President

JN2609153790 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received in the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon Mr. Hector Cardinapes, the Mexican president's envoy, who conveyed to his majesty a message from the Mexican president on the developments of the Gulf crisis.

The meeting was attended by his excellency the chief of the Royal Court and his majesty's political adviser.

Hasan, Italian Deputy Minister Discuss Gulf

JN0210170890 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon Italian Deputy Prime Minister Claudio Martelli in the presence of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan.

During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral relations and the Gulf crisis. The meeting was attended by the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the information minister and acting foreign minister, the political adviser of the Italian deputy prime minister, and the Italian ambassador to Amman.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan received Mr. Martelli and the accompanying delegation in his office at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon. During the meeting, they reviewed the current situation in light of the Gulf crisis and the positions of Italy and the European Community on the crisis.

His Royal Highness Prince Hasan briefed the Italian official on Jordan's views on tackling the crisis and explained Jordan's economic losses resulting from the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions imposing economic sanctions on Iraq.

Mr. Martelli expressed his country's readiness to extend emergency aid to Jordan to help it deal with the economic situation and to help Jordan in processing evacuees. The meeting was attended by Ibrahim 'Izz-al-Din, information minister and acting foreign minister.

Parliament Ordinary Session Postponed

JN2909130190 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] A royal decree has been issued postponing the ordinary term of the parliament session until 17 November in accordance with Paragraph 1 of Article 78 of the Constitution.

Release of British Hostages Expected 'Very Soon'

NC0310093590 Beirut AL-ANWAR in Arabic
2 Oct 90 p 4

[Text] Sidon, AL-NAWAR—Responsible security sources yesterday confirmed that the release of the British hostages will take place very soon. The same sources pointed out that an influential Palestinian faction, which has recently stepped into the matter, affirmed that one of the hostages, Terry Waite, might be released in the next two days now that the contacts made in this respect with the parties holding Waite have borne fruit.

The sources stressed that all procedures have been made to release the kidnappees in the next two days, after the endeavors exerted at the various levels met with success.

The sources link this positive step to the current political rapprochement between Britain and Iran.

Fatah Official Escapes Assassination Attempt

NC0210170190 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1545 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] AFP has reported that Munir Miqdah, an official in the Fatah Movement, escaped an assasination attempt while on his way to his office in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp in Sidon this morning.

The agency notes that the ensuing shootout resulted in the death of one of the attackers and the detention of the other.

Defense Council Condemns Nahr Al-Mawt 'Massacre'

NC0210161590 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi chaired a meeting of the Higher Defense Council this morning. Deputy Prime Minister Michel Sasin; Ministers Edmund Rizq, 'Ali al-Khalil, Muhsin Dallul, and Ilyas al-Khazin; Army Commander General Emile Lahhud; and presidential adviser 'Umar al-Musayki attended the meeting.

After the meeting, Information Minister Attorney Rizq read a statement on the decisions adopted by the council. The statement condemned and denounced the Nahr al-Mawt crossing massacre, extended condolences to the victims' relatives, and said the council shares their sorrow and their wrath against those responsible for the crime.

The council emphasized that the Lebanese Army under its legitimate command thoroughly obeys the orders of Gen. Lahhud and did not fire one single shot in the direction of the demonstrators or in any other direction. The council explained that the legitimate state is eager to guarantee freedom of expression and give all citizens the opportunity to gather wherever they like. The proof of this, the council said, is that no one has been attacked by the Army anywhere.

The Higher Defense Council stressed that the objective of the operation which is being carried out by the Lebanese Army is to end the state of rebellion, mutiny, and division directed by officer Michel 'Awn and to reunite the military establishment. The council pointed out that the process of ending the rebellion and uniting the Army is continuing and that the military establishment is eager to avert any bloodshed among the people and Army and that it refuses to pursue the gangs' methods and the liquidations which the mutinous officer practices and tries to spread among the forces on which he imposes his orders through repression, coercion, or blind subservience.

The council said that the safety of the people and the Army is the concern of the legitimate authority and a trust in its hands and that the legitimate authority is exerting the utmost efforts to limit the damage resulting from the state of rebellion, mutiny, and division. The legitimate authority urges the Lebanese public to thwart the plans for sedition, put an end to the tricks of the mutineers, and expose their misleading, destructive, and selfish methods.

The council said that the people and Army are now required to take a sweeping collective stand and address the obvious questions: Where to, O mutinous officer? What is next and how long will it last? What do you want and what is still left in the homeland that you can exploit? The council stressed that the Army and people must stand united, end the rebellion, and unify Lebanon for the sake of all Lebanese.

'Awn Accused of 'Preplanning'

NC0210104290 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 0445 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Excerpts] The Nahr al-Mawt massacre is a black link in a chain around the neck of General 'Awn who, since 4 February 1988, has turned the eastern areas into a huge river of blood, into which the young and the elderly have been swept. [passage omitted]

Last night, Gen. 'Awn pushed several deceived and innocent men toward the crossing points and positioned some of his gunmen among them. These gunmen opened fire, causing great chaos and inflicting several casualties among the citizens. The main purpose of slaughtering innocent people is clear and obvious; namely, to exploit public opinion and distract attention from the citizens' suffering as a result of Gen. 'Awn's rebellion. [passage omitted]

According to detailed reports, after having misled some citizens, who number less than 150 persons, Gen. 'Awn sent them toward the Nahr al-Mawt area. As the citizens approached al-Jumayyil station, 'Awn gunmen opened fire from behind. The citizens tried to return, only to be surprised by the bullets which rained down on them and caused a number of casualties. This is what really happened at Nahr al-Mawt. [passage omitted] Some of the pro-'Awn gunmen who could be identified among the wounded are: Capt. Elie Hatta and 1st Lt. Paul 'Aramuni, who were both seriously injured, and 1st Lt. Edgard Jaradati, who was slightly wounded.

According to our information, these demonstrations were planned by 'Awn's intelligence agency and carried out by the so-called Coordination Bureau as well as a number of pro-'Awn military personnel. It was clear that the coordinators were present at all the crossing points except Nahr al-Mawt, which was to be the scene of the confrontation planned by some military men. These military men organized the demonstration, pushed some civilians in, and opened fire toward the crossing point, thus causing tension and leading to clashes. Also, cameras and recorders had been installed in advance at the hospitals and only eight minutes after the incident, film of the incident was aired via Lebanon Television [pro-'Awn television]—this is more proof that 'Awn's group preplanned the incident.

According to the same information, the official statement by the 'Awn group failed to mention what happened at the Monte Verde crossing point, although 'Awn media organs had talked about it earlier. This is further proof that what happened at Nahr al-Mawt was a premeditated operation against innocent people to exploit their blood and their lives.

Al-Huss Addresses UN General Assembly

NC0310084290 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss delivered Lebanon's speech to the UN General Assembly session yesterday. He said that today Lebanon is at the threshold of a new phase which he hopes will be one of stability, peace, and construction.

He said that today Lebanon is in need of the backing of the international community, first to cross this threshold and then to restore its health and resume the process of growth and construction. Dr. al-Huss added that Lebanon needs backing for liberating its territories from Israeli occupation through the implementation of Resolution 425, which was passed by the Security Council 12 years ago. He stressed that there will be no peace or stability in Lebanon as long as the aggression continues. He also called for making Israel take its hands off Lebanon's waters in the South.

Dr. al-Huss referred to Lebanon's endeavors to get the necessary foreign aid for confronting the socioeconomic crises that are affecting it. He said that Lebanon is wagering on the success of the plan to set up an international fund to help Lebanon. The fund aims to organize a joint international action to support the large-scale construction effort awaiting Lebanon in the coming phase of peace and construction. He stressed that a healthy Lebanon will be the best living evidence of civilized achievement by the international community through its solidarity, sound determination, and correct direction.

Dr. al-Huss praised the role of the tripartite Arab committee in helping Lebanon overcome the tribulation. He then drew attention to the negative effects of the Gulf crisis on Lebanon.

Lahd Responds to Requests, Releases 40 Prisoners

NC0110124990 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Agent Lahd released 40 prisoners today in response to urgent requests by religious men and other forces, according to REUTER.

Amal Issues Statement

NC0210113690 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] The detainees released by the occupation authorities yesterday gave detailed information about the sufferings of those still held at al-Khiyam prison. They said detainees are brutally and methodically tortured.

The Amal Movement information bureau in the South has issued a statement. It said: While receiving those who were released today, we should remember that some 300 othes are still being held in al-Khiyam detention camp, a symbol of Zionist terrorism. The Israeli authorities are carrying out the most grotesque crimes against mankind before the eyes and ears of the international community, which idly stands by despite Israel's practices and violations of the most basic humanitarian rights.

The Amal statement goes on to emphasize that Israel continues to flout all UN resolutions concerning both the Palestinian people's rights and the need for the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from southern Lebanon.

Radio Commentary Says U.S., Saddam Must Go

NC0210145690 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Station political commentary: "If a War Breaks Out in the Gulf"]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. What if a war erupts in the Gulf and each side hastens to use the most devastating weapons, advanced bombers, and most sophisticated missiles? What if Saddam goes insane and declares war against himself and others on the basis of the saying: If the roof falls on my head, it will also fall on the heads of my enemies? What if he sets the Gulf, Kuwait, and Iraqi oil wells on fire? What if Saddam scatters chemical substances with his missiles and bombs, and these substances permeate the desert winds of the Gulf? And what if America responds by bombarding Iraqi and Kuwaiti economic, oil, and military installations and kills Saddam at the end of the battle? The postwar picture in the Gulf is fraught with great danger for everybody, without exception. Because of this serious and real danger, many parties rule out a possible war in this region, which is like a powder keg waiting for someone to light the fuse.

Should a war break out in the Gulf, it will bring down the pillars of the industrial technological world which depends on oil for everything. It would not be strange if a Third World War starts as a result of a possible confrontation in the Gulf because the economies of the capitalist states will collapse. The states capable of it will resort to launching wars to obtain whatever could be obtained from others. Naturally, all the ruling regimes in the Arab and Islamic worlds, Asia, and elsewhere will fall. [passage omitted]

America will fall and lose its claimed greatness should it give in to Saddam, let him remain in Kuwait, and keep his regime in Baghdad. If Saddam launches attacks against America and against oil wells in the Gulf, setting them ablaze, America will also fall. Saddam will also fall should he withdraw from Kuwait and sell what he bought with violence and obstinacy. He is prone to an inevitable fall should he or others start the war. Thus, it is an extremely serious and critical issue for everybody. So far, it seems that the United States is seeking to strangle the Iraqi reqime economically until it screams and gives up. At the same time, it is attempting to get rid of Saddam through a military coup or by assassination at the hands of its Baghdad intelligence agents or the Soviet intelligence agents who have deeply infiltrated the ranks of the ruling regime in Baghdad. This could be what Bush and Gorbachev agreed upon recently in Helsinki. [passage omitted]

Since what is happening is not far from us—the Islamicists in Lebanon, the Arab region in general, and the Gulf in particular—it is incumbent upon us and whoever cares for the security and safety of the region and its wealth to take the initiative before America and Saddam do. America must leave our region by any means, whether under pressure, by force, or because of warnings against the consequences of the matter. Saddam must also go because his adventures, starting with his war against Islamic Iran and followed by his invasion of Kuwait, will not end with a war against the Zionist entity, as some simple Arabs hope. Saddam's twisted statements and the peaceful assurances to the Zionists which he conveyed to the U.S. ambassador in Baghdad and which were published in the press a few days ago are evidence of this. It was the Iraqi regime's source that leaked them to the press in an attempt to assure the Zionist entity and the Western Jews in general. If Saddam is to conclude his adventures in the Gulf with military operations, it is likely that he will direct his army and weapons against another Arab or Islamic state.

The natural and reasonable solution that could save the region and those living in it and divert attention back to usurped Palestine would be for the invading U.S. troops to depart, by whatever means, and for Saddam and his regime to fall. This is what Iran and Syria underlined through the concurrence between Shaykh Hashemi-Rafsanjani and President al-Asad. It is an inescapable fact that there is no other alternative among the proposed solutions for the current Gulf crisis.

Finally, we are fully confident that the mujahidin, wherever they may be, will respond to the call by leader Khamene'i and that the solution will come at the hands of the avenging revolutionaries, when they let the invaders taste the bitterness of defiling the Muslims' lands. The time of occupation and submission is gone. The era of the late Khomeyni, may God bless his soul, has dawned, heralding the end of the eras of arrogance and colonialism.

Al-Shar' Speaks at UN General Assembly Session

JN0210193290 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1640 GMT 2 Oct 90

["Text" of speech by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' to the UN General Assembly on 2 October]

[Text] New York, 2 Oct (SANA)—Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to congratulate you on your election as chairman of the General Assembly's 45th session, especially since your country, Malta, has old historical and cultural ties with my country as our two countries are among the Mediterranean Basin countries.

I would like to seize this opportunity to express our appreciation for the success of your predecessor, Joseph Garba, in running the work of the 44th session, wishing his friendly country, Nigeria, all progress and prosperity.

Please let us express our heartfelt welcome of Namibia's independence and its entry into the family of nations to stand on the side of the nations of the world and support their just causes. We also welcome Liechtenstein to our international organization.

I am also pleased to express to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar our deep appreciation for his valuable efforts to help achieve peace and stability in the world and to entrench the principles and purposes of the UN Charter.

Mr. Chairman, during the past few years and this year in particular, the world has witnessed events and changes that are great in their magnitude, quick in their development, and deep in their reflection and effects not only on current international relations, but also on mankind's future. We may disagree in our assessment of the outcome of these events and changes, especially in the long run, but what is certain is that the cold war has ended and that countries that we had classified until recently as the socialist camp, have adopted a new policy. Moreover, a unified Germany will be declared within hours, although any mention of this subject until last year had been viewed as taboo.

Very briefly, we can say that the international order that resulted from World War II has collapsed and that a new international system has begun to emerge with the disappearance of the cold war and the spirit of hostility between the East and the West, which have moved to a new stage of understanding and cooperation.

It is natural for a spirit of optimism to prevail in the world as a result of the end of the cold war and the collapse of the old order, especially since the overwhelming majority of the developing countries were originally unable to participate in that collapsed old order because when it was founded, these countries were either under the yoke of colonialism or its protection. Yet the South's developing countries are dutybound to play their natural role in safeguarding the new international order and to be more capable of safeguarding their independence and achieving prosperity for their peoples divorced from the various kinds of subservience and hegemony.

The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait is the first serious test of the capability of the newly born international order to survive. Therefore, the Security Council has not many options. Hence, its response to the invasion was vigorous and quick not only to save Kuwait as an independent state and a member of the United Nations, but also to save the policy of international detente and the new international order from collapse. This explains the unprecedented international consensus condemning the aggression, demanding the unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi forces, and declaring the need to restore its legitimate government.

In addition to its belief in these conceptions and its adherence to the UN Charter and the Security Council resolutions, Syria, as an Arab country, is concerned about helping any Arab country facing aggression in accordance with the Arab League Charter and the Collective Arab Defense Pact. And by virtue of the principles of its Arab policy, Syria believes that the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait has greatly harmed the people of Iraq as it led them up a blind alley, to assume the least damaging prospects. It harmed the entire Arab nation as it deepened its weakness and fragmentation and affected its status. It also hurt the Palestine question as most Arab and foreign countries now show less interest in this question. Furthermore, the invasion of Kuwait, with the panic it created among all Arab citizens in the Gulf, provided the reason for a foreign presence to protect Arab from Arab—something never envisioned before.

Clearly, eagerness to end the foreign presence in the region—which Syria is calling for—requires serious work to obtain the unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the restoration of the legitimate government of that country.

Hiding behind slogans of Islam, Arab nationalism, and distribution of the oil wealth will not deceive the Iraqi people or alleviate their pain. The Arabs and Muslims know full well that in the name of Arab nationalism, Muslim Iran was attacked, and under the banner of Islam and jihad, Arab Kuwait was occupied. Although Iraq is one of the richest oil countries, the cost of its irresponsible policies cannot be covered by all the Arab wealth.

The world community has always rejected and denounced the policy of aggression, occupation, and annexation of the lands of others by force. UN resolutions condemning the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories and calling on Israel to withdraw fully from these territories are issued every year in this world forum and other forums. But the cold war and competition between the East and the West constantly rendered these resolutions less effective and allowed the aggressor, in one way or another, to maintain its occupation and reap the fruits of its aggression.

But now that the cold war between the East and West is over; that the relationship between the two camps has changed from one of rivalry and confrontation to one of cooperation and partnership; and that a new world order which the world community is eager to care of and strengthen has appeared in the horizon; the occupation, annexation, and acquisition of territory of others by force must stop, and the aggressor must not reap the fruit of his aggression.

It is ironic that Israel, which claims it wants peace, still rejects a UN-sponsored international conference on peace in the Middle East for which the world community has been calling for a decade and a half.

It is yet another irony that Israel should claim that the problem in the region is the lack of peace agreements between Israel and the Arab countries without acknowledging that the real problem lies in its occupation of the Arab territories. Peace cannot be achieved without Israel's withdrawal from these territories. Peace and occupation have never met under one roof at any time in history.

Syria, which has not hesitated in condemning the annexation of an Arab country by another Arab country, expects the world, under the new world climate, to stand firmly against Israel's occupation of the Arab territory. We believe that what came in the statement issued by the foreign ministers of the permanent members of the Security Council on 28 September 1990, a statement that calls for a comprehensive and fair settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of Security Council Resolutions No. 242 and 338, constitutes an important step in the right direction. Rejecting occupation and annexation is a principle that must be respected and taken into account in all cases regardless of the occupier and occupied territory because this principle must be at the core of the new world order.

Mr. Chairman: The Lebanese crisis has come today closer than any time in the past to a final solution after the al-Ta'if accord, which gained Arab and international support, became a national charter and a new constitution for Lebanon. Out of its belief in Lebanon's unity and in safeguarding Lebanon's security, stability, and independence, Syria is committed to supporting Lebanese legitimacy and to offering every possible assistance to the legitimate Lebanese Government to take the necessary measures to extend the authority of the state over all the Lebanese territory. And this requires the implementation of Security Council Resolution No. 425 calling for Israel's unconditional withdrawal from Lebanese territory.

Syria, which is linked with Cyprus through historical friendship, supports the efforts made through the United Nations to settle the existing conflict in the island in accordance with UN resolutions in a way that guarantees the country's unity and nonalignment and takes into consideration the interests of all its sons.

With regard to the situation in Afghanistan, we believe in the need to abide by the Geneva agreements and reassert Afghanistan's sovereignty, independence, and nonalignment as well as the Afghan people's right to chose their government without foreign interference.

Regarding the situation in Korea, Syria welcomes the ongoing negotiations between the two Koreas. It supports the ongoing efforts to unify them as well as their joining the United Nations.

The progress achieved in the African continent in terms of liberty and independence will remain incomplete if the racial segregation system does not end in South Africa. We affirm the need to apply the declaration issued by the United Nations in its 16th extraordinary session with regard to apartheid and its destructive results in southern Africa. Syria once again welcomes the release of African leader Nelson Mandela and hails his honorable stand in defense of people's rights and his solid resistance to apartheid.

Mr. Chairman: People throughout the world who are eager for a future that is fairer, more secure, and more prosperous today look at this international organization with great hope to find solutions to old problems that can only be saved through international efforts and solidarity.

The United Nations, under the new international order, will take—and it in fact has begun to take—an important position and role the likes of which it has never witnessed since its establishment. It is a new chapter in the history of our international organization. So let us announce our political solidarity and will to record the best sought by mankind everywhere.

Al-Hirawi in Damascus for Talks With Al-Asad

NC2909173090 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] A summit meeting between Presidents Ilyas al-Hirawi and Hafiz al-Asad opened at 1800 today [in Damascus]. This meeting has been described as important, as it comes at a crucial time. The talks between Presidents al-Hirawi and al-Asad will be lengthy and take place in several rounds that will extend until tomorrow.

A responsible source has pointed out that the talks will deal with the internal situation in Lebanon, particulary the situation in the eastern area, and the efforts to establish greater Beirut. The talks will also deal with the possibility of sending the Army to Iqlim al-Tuffah. The source said that President al-Hirawi will be briefed by President al-Asad on the outcome of his visit to Tehran and its positive effects on Lebanon.

Afghanistan

Deputy Defense Minister Visits Forces in Lowgar

LD2809174890 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] General Muhammad Nabi 'Azimi, first deputy defense minister and general commander of Kabul garrison, and Lieutenant General Muhammad 'Azim Zurmati, deputy interior minister and general operational commander of that ministry, today visited the security posts and units and companies of the armed forces stationed in Lowgar Province.

BAKHTAR's military section adds that during this meeting, medals and decorations of the Republic of Afghanistan and extraordinary promotion cards were awarded and presented to those vanguard personnel of the units and companies who have shown merit in fulfilling their duties.

2 Oct Rocket Attack Kills 25 Kabul Residents

LD0210163190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] As many as 25 Kabul residents were killed and 22 others were injured today as a result of a surface-to-surface rocket fired by extremists. BAKHTAR's military section reports: The rocket landed at a coal distribution center in Ward Five of Kabul, where many of our compatriots had gathered to buy coal to warm their homes on cold winter days. It resulted in a grave and shocking incident.

The rocket was fired at Kabul by Haji Sheralam, a ringleader associated with the Wahhabi Sayaf under the instruction of Pakistani military and Wahhabis from the right of Pakhadara in Paghman. Those injured in this sad incident were immediately taken to hospitals and are under intensive treatment and medical care.

Casualties Reported in Missile Attack on Kabul

LD3009155190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Extremists fired surface-to-surface missiles today, killing or wounding 36 citizens of Kabul. BAKHTAR's military section reports that the injured were taken to hospitals immediately and kept in for serious treatment and observation.

The extremists fired the missiles in disregard of Islamic tenets at a time when our Muslim and religious people were on the eve of marking the birth anniversary of the Prophet Muhammad the great messenger of Islam, may peace be upon him and his scion. The missiles landed on the residential areas of the fourth, fifth, and sixth wards of Kabul city, caused casualties among our compatriots and bereavement to several families in Kabul city. [passage omitted]

Hikmatyar on Iraqi 'Aggression' Against Kuwait

PM0310082290 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 23 Sep 90 p 10

[Interview with Hezb-e Eslami leader Gulbuddin Hikmatyar by Muhammad 'Abduh 'Addawi in Mecca; date not given]

[Excerpt] ['Addawi] Your Excellency, how do you view the present situation in the Gulf?

[Hikmatyar] Actually, the current situation in the Gulf is very bad. The reason is the evil aggression committed by the Iraqi Army and regime against the Muslim State of Kuwait and their harm to its innocent people.

The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait is an unjust and oppressive action of which our true religion and international conventions and laws disapprove. Furthermore, it has caused major splits and disputes within the nation.

The invasion serves no one except the enemies of God who are preparing an ambush for the nation. It primarily serves their interests.

['Addawi] How do you view the regime's threats to Saudi Arabia?

[Hikmatyar] This has exacerbated the situation, and the action is condemned by every Muslim. It makes it a duty to support the Kingdom against those threats and Iraq's evil intentions. We in Afghanistan are totally ready to play this honorable role and to support our brothers in the Saudi Army to defend the purest and holiest of places.

At this time I convey to you our profound willingness to go to the Saudi front in unlimited numbers.

['Addawi] Your Excellency, you have spoken about the current bad situation in the region. What do you think is the solution?

[Hikmatyar] I believe that the solution lies in several things, including Iraq's immediate withdrawal from Kuwait in order to protect the other states against its aggression. I believe that Islamic forces must be deployed in the region in a defensive role to repulse the oppressor and to restore people's proper rights in accordance with the eternal divine path—God's book and the Sunnah of his Prophet, peace be upon him. [passage omitted]

Bangladesh

Most Citizens From Gulf Reported Repatriated

Ambassador Reports

BK0310013490 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Bangladeshi missions in Baghdad and Amman have now made regular and institutionalized arrangements to assist the repatriation of Bangladeshi nationals leaving Kuwait and Iraq.

A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Dhaka this afternoon that most of the Bangladeshis willing to leave Iraq and Kuwait have so far been repatriated to Dhaka from different parts of the Middle East. Till this morning, a total of 55,368 Bangladeshi nationals returned to Dhaka by 196 flights. Of them, 39,884 came from Amman in Jordan, 11,700 from Turkey, and 3,784 from Saudi Arabia. Bangladeshi Ambassador to Kuwait K.M. Shihabuddin, who returned to Dhaka this morning via Amman, was also present at the news briefing. He narrated his experience in Kuwait city after the Iraqi take over on the 2d of August last.

6,000 To Remain in Kuwait

BK0310091190 Hong Kong AFP in English 0746 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Dhaka, Oct 3 (AFP)—At least 6,000 Bangladeshi nationals were staying back in Kuwait either because they were being prevented from coming or willingly to guard the properties of their employers, official sources said here Wednesday.

"Of the estimated 75,000 Bangladeshis who were employed in Kuwait at the time of the August 2 Iraqi invasion about eight per cent were staying back," the sources said, adding that they were mainly technicians, workers and domestic helps. The technicians were possibly being held by the Iraqis to maintain key installations like water and electricity supply, the sources said.

Earlier a Foreign Office spokesman here said Iraq was forcing some 2,000 Bangladeshis to work in military camps in Kuwait, but their fate was still unknown. The sources added that workers and domestic helps were staying back willingly to guard the homes or offices of their Kuwaiti owners who have fled the tiny oil-rich emirate.

"For most it is a matter of responsibility," one official said, quoting Bangladesh's envoy to Kuwait, K.M. Shihabuddin who returned home Tuesday. So far 90 per cent of the Bangladeshis in Kuwait have left, officials said.

Airport officials said the total number of refugees to reach Dhaka from the Gulf by 198 special flights till Wednesday stood at 56,371. There were 25,000 Bangladeshis in Iraq, many of whom were on their way home or have returned.

August Exports Drop 21% Due to Gulf Crisis

BK0110073190 Hong Kong AFP in English 0718 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Dhaka, Oct 1 (AFP)—Bangladesh's export earnings dropped by 21 per cent in August because of the Gulf crisis, export industry sources said Monday.

The export figure fell to 129.13 million dollars in August from 162.50 million dollars the previous month, sources at the Export Promotion Bureau said.

They said factors in the export decline included the suspension of exports to Iraq and occupied Kuwait in line with U.N.-backed sanctions, increased prices for oil imports and related products, higher insurance premiums, increased shipping and air fares and depressed world markets.

The sources said they had noted a sudden fall in Dhaka's exports of shrimp, frozen food, leather and jute goods to the Gulf region since Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait.

The average monthly figure for July and August, at 145.8 million dollars, was marginally above the target of 144.5 million.

On July 1, the start of the fiscal year 1990-91, Bangladesh fixed an overall annual export target of 1,704 million dollars, an average of 142 million dollars a month.

Ershad Meets Maldives President in New York

BK3009085790 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] President Abdul Gayoom of the Maldives has called on President Ershad in New York. During an hour-long meeting yesterday, the two leaders discussed matters relating to the forthcoming SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit being held in Male in November next. They also discussed the current Gulf crisis and matters of mutual interest.

Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud and Maldives Foreign Minister Fathulla Jameel were also present on the occasion. Later, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal called on President Ershad and discussed with him matters of mutual interest.

Students Call For Anti-Ershad Campaign

BK0210003590 Hong Kong AFP in English 2028 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Dhaka, Oct 1 (AFP)—Several hundred student activists from across Bangladesh Monday called for a united campaign to unseat President Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

The call was made at a special meeting here sponsored by the powerful Dhaka University Central Students Union (DUCSU) which is dominated by the Jatiyatabadi Chatra Dal, the student wing of Begum Khaleda Zia's opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

DUCSU Vice President Amanullah Aman charged that the government was "using our differences to cling to power and it is for the interest of the nation that we should be united."

The student wings of Sheikh Hasina Wajed's opposition Awami League and of the communist parties stayed away from the convention.

Dhaka University has a reputation for radicalism and has produced many of the country's leaders.

Tribal Leader Believed Shot Dead by Rebels

BK0310060590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0543 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Dhaka, Oct 3 (AFP)—A tribal leader in Bangladesh's troubled southeastern Chittagong Hills was shot dead by unidentified assailants, officials and newspapers here said Wednesday.

Tuni Lal Chakma, 50, chairman of the Kutubdia Union Council in Rangamati District was shot late Tuesday as he left his office for home and died instantly, the reports said, adding that security forces and police went to the scene but have so far failed to detain anyone connected with the assassination.

Officials here said they suspected that the outlawed Shanti Bahini rebels carried out the attack as they were opposed to tribals working with the government. "Investigation is under way," one official added.

The Shanti Bahini, mostly drawn from the Chakma tribe, have waged a bush war for the past 16 years for the autonomy of the rugged region bordering India and Burma and the expulsion of hundreds of settlers.

India

Gujral, Shevardnadze Urge Measures To Avert War

BK0310033390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have called upon the world community to fully explore peace initiatives in the Gulf and find a solution which will avoid war. The call was made during a meeting between the external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, and the Soviet foreign minister, Mr. Shevardnadze, in New York yesterday. Mr. Gujral explained to Mr. Shevardnadze the Indian position which seeks to resolve the crisis within the framework of the United Nations. Mr. Gujral also informed him about the Indian proposal to create a UN peacekeeping force in the Gulf.

Gujral Reiterates Call For Iraqi Withdrawal

BK0310073390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] India has reiterated its view that Iraq should reconsider its policy and withdraw from Kuwait. The external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, clarified New Delhi's stand on the Gulf crisis, when he met his Kuwaiti counterpart, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir at the United Nations yesterday. Mr. Gujral informed the Kuwaiti foreign minister that India's position is in consonance with the UN resolutions.

Speaking to newsmen before returning home last night, the external affairs minister said that he had useful exchange of views with various leaders, including the UN Secretary General and the Soviet foreign minister on the need for a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis.

Two Killed in Violence at Delhi Rally

BK0210132690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Incidents of violence and arson occurred at the rally organized by antireservationists comprising farmers and students at the Boat Club in New Delhi today. Police opened fire to disperse an unruly mob in which two persons were killed and five injured. According to the police, the participants in the rally while dispersing indulged in a battle with the police. Several tear gas shells were lobbed and the police had to open fire in self-defense. One policeman was also seriously injured and a number of vehicles including two water tankers were burned by the agitationists who came mostly from the neighboring states. Earlier, speakers at the rally criticized the government decision on implementation of the Mandal Commission report. Those who spoke at the rally included Dr. Karan Singh, Mr. Mahendra Singh Tikait, and writer Mrs. Amrita Pritanm. Our correspondent reports that some buses and private vehicles were damaged. Demonstrators wielding lathis [batons] and iron rods forced some private vehicle owners to carry them to the Boat Club.

Update Reports Three Killed

BK0210163990 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Excerpts] The rally organized by the antireservationists at the Boat Club in New Delhi was marked by incidents of violence and arson. Three persons including a police constable were killed and 18 injured. The constable was killed by a gunshot wound inflicted by the mob. The violent mob attacked the police with lathis [batons], iron rods, and other lethal weapons injuring nearly 50 of them. The police commissioner, Mr. Vijay Karan, said it was supposed to be a rally of students. But antisocial elements joined in armed with lethal weapons which they used freely on the police. They set ablaze a number of vehicles including two water tankers, looted kiosks, and tried to break open a bank. The police had to open fire at two places and use tear gas shells to control the mob. The police commissioner made it clear that antisocial elements will not be allowed to take law in their hands and troublemakers will be dealt with sternly. Sixty persons were arrested today for arson and rioting. [passage omitted]

The Delhi Transport Corporation today withdrew its entire fleet from the roads apprehending trouble in view of the rally. A spokesman of the corporation said a skeleton service will be operated tomorrow and augmented if the situation remains peaceful.

The situation in Haryana, Punjab, and Himachal Pradesh where antireservation agitation took place was reported peaceful today. In Gujarat, one student attempted self-immolation and another consumed poison today in protest against implementation of the Mandal Commission report. Both of them had been admitted to hospitals.

Lok Sabha To Reconsider Bill on Punjab 4 Oct

BK0210165090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] The constitution amendment bill seeking to extend the president's rule in Punjab for another 6 months is to be reintroduced in the Lok Sabha on Thursday [4 October]. An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that the speaker will be requested to waive the relevant rules to enable the taking up of the bill for the second time in the same session. He said there is likely to be no discussion as the home minister had already replied to the debate on the bill yesterday. After passing the bill by the house, it will be taken up by Rajya Sabha the same day. The spokesman said the bill is expected to be sent for president's approval on Thursday itself. He said if all the formalities are not completed by Friday, the election commission will have to activate the process for assembly elections in Punjab and issue the necessary notification.

The prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, is now having consultations with the leaders of supporting parties on the Punjab issue. According to National Front sources, the prime minister and the leadership of the front have taken a serious view of the failure of some members in the Lok Sabha to be present in the house on Monday when the constitution amendment bill was taken up for voting. They said letters are being sent to them seeking their explanation on the matter.

Communist Leader, Others Die in Punjab Violence

BK0210161990 Hong Kong AFP in English 1552 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 2 (AFP)—Sikh separatists Tuesday shot dead a communist leader and two of his associates in Punjab, while 11 others died overnight in the troubled Indian state in violence linked to a Sikh homeland campaign. Gunmen shot dead Sarwan Singh, a Sikh and a local leader of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), and two others at a village in Ludhiana District, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

Mr. Sarwan's Singh bodyguard fired back at the attackers, but they escaped, police were quoted as saying. No further details were available. Sikh militants battling for a homeland called Khalistan (land of the pure) in the northern state of Punjab have killed several Communists for their active opposition to the separatist campaign.

Security forces shot and killed three Sikh separatists in two separate attacks near the state's border with Pakistan, while militants shot dead eight civilians elsewhere overnight Monday, PTI said. The Khalistan campaign has left at least 1,889 people dead this year. India blames Pakistan for the Sikh militancy, but Islamabad denies the charge.

Punjab Terrorist Violence Reported; Arms Seized

BK0310053190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] In Punjab, 10 persons, including three terrorists, were killed in separate incidents since last evening.

According to an official spokesman in Amritsar, two terrorists were killed in an encounter with security forces in Sultanbind area and one in Tarn Taran area. A large quantity of arms and ammunition, including two AK-47 rifles and some hand grenades, were recovered from the killed terrorists. In Jullundur District, one terrorist was arrested, following an encounter in Phillaur area. One AK-47 rifle and about 100 rounds of ammunition were recovered from the arrested terrorists. In Faridkot District, terrorists shot dead three members of a family and injured another four in (Padumkalan) area. The terrorists also gunned down two persons in Rupar District and one each in Amitsar and Ferozepore Districts.

Army Troops Patrol Kashmir Town; 16 Killed

BK0210161490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1519 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Jammu, India, Oct 2 (AFP)—Indian Army troops were patrolling a Kashmir town Tuesday after at least 16 people died during and after a fierce gunbattle between paramilitary forces and Moslem separatists, officials said.

Soldiers in battle fatigues moved into Handwara, in Kashmir state, after authorities clamped a curfew there following Monday's firefight which also left 32 others injured. But unofficial reports put the death toll at 37, with most victims perishing in fires that destroyed at least 350 houses and shops in the small town soon after the fighting between security forces and Moslem militants.

The gunbattle reportedly erupted after Moslem militants leading a violent campaign for secession in Jammu and Kashmir state launched a surprise attack on a Border Security Force (BSF) picket, killing two troopers. The rebels, who India says are trained and armed by neighbouring Pakistan, fired from automatic weapons and also lobbed grenades at the border troops, who normally guard India's land frontiers.

The BSF personnel fought back, killing two separatist guerrillas, officials said in this winter capital of Kashmir. Immediately after the exchange of fire, leaping flames engulfed some 250 shops and 100 houses spreading across four densely-populated districts of Handwara town, killing at least 10 people.

Officials accused the militants of setting fire to the homes and shops by lobbing grenades, but residents blamed the security forces for the devastating fires. No further details were immediately available. Elsewhere in Kashmir, India's only Moslem-majority state, police found the body of a Moslem civilian driver in the Jehlum river while security forces shot dead an infiltrator from Pakistan overnight Monday, officials said.

Kashmir has been wracked by a Moslem militant-led campaign for independence which has left at least 1,653 people dead this year. New Delhi blames Pakistan, which disputes Kashmir's 1947 accession to India, for the unrest. Islamabad denies helping Kashmiri militants, but gives diplomatic backing to the independence campaign. India and Pakistan have fought two wars over Kashmir.

Evacuation of Nationals From Kuwait Continues

BK0110165090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Speedy evacuation of Indian nationals stranded in Kuwait is continuing. Three thousand eight hundred Indians are being airlifted today from Amman by Air India and flights arranged by the International Organization for Migration—IOM. Our special correspondent Prabhakar Mishra, who visited the (Andalus) Camp at Amman airport, today reports that over 950 Indians have already left for India by three IOM flights.

Meanwhile, more Indians have started arriving at the Ruwayshid Camp on the Iraq-Jordan border. At Dubayy Airport, the second Indian passenger ship—MV Akbar—arrived today with 1,847 passengers, including 51 infants, from Kuwait. They are being airlifted to Bombay.

SRV, Others Request Help in Gulf Food Delivery

BK0210051990 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] The Indian cargo ship, Vishva Siddhi, which carried food supplies to the stranded Indian nationals in Kuwait and Iraq has begun unloading about 10,000 tons of foodstuff and medicine at the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr.

A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry told newsmen in New Delhi that Vietnam and some other countries have sought help from India for supplying foodstuffs to their stranded nationals in the Gulf region. He said about 90,000 Indians have been evacuated so far by air and sea routes from Kuwait and Iraq. Eleven flights are being undertaken daily from Amman and al-Basrah to Bombay and another two flights from Dubayy to Bombay to bring home stranded Indians.

Evacuation Ship From Kuwait Docks at Dubayy

BK0110131490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] At Dubayy Port, the second Indian passenger ship—MV Akbar—arrived today with 1,847 passengers, including 51 infants, from Kuwait. They are being airlifted to Bombay. Our Gulf correspondent Avinash Goel reports that unloading of relief materials from the cargo ship—Vishva Siddhi—at Umm Qasr is continuing.

4,000 More Citizens Evacuated From Amman

BK0210165690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] The number of stranded Indian nationals being airlifted from Amman has risen to 4,000 from today. The number will further go up in the coming days. This was disclosed by the External Affairs Ministry's chief evacuation coordinator, Mr. Ratan Sehgal, in Amman today. He told our special correspondent, Prabhakar Mishra, that he has also asked the Indian community leaders in Kuwait to assess the number of Indian nationals there awaiting evacuation and to plan their speedy departure. Our correspondent who visited the Azraq camp today said an estimated 8,000 people are there in the camp at present. Another batch of 6,500 evacuees is arriving at the camp from Ruwayshid camp today.

Iran

President Offers To Help Sudan in Civil War

LD0310125290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani received Colonel Sulayman Muhammad Sulayman, member of the Sudanese Command Council, this morning. At this meeting, the Sudanese Command Council member expressed his pleasure at his visit to Tehran and delivered a written message from the Sudanese president [as heard] to our president. He then stressed the importance of the role of the Islamic Republic of Iran in guiding the Islamic ummah, saying: We are aware that from its inception the Islamic revolution has faced many dangers, including an economic, political, and publicity embargo. It has succeeded by relying on Islamic principles and assistance from God Almighty.

The Sudanese Command Council member added: We recognize the Islamic Republic of Iran as the hope of the Islamic ummah and the leader in achieving victory for the oppressed forces. He went on to give our president a report on the internal situation of Sudan. He mentioned the arrogant plot imposed on that country through the problem of southern Sudan and the rebellion in that region. He said: In Sudan, we are facing the same embargos that the Islamic revolution has faced; but with divine help, and by following Islam, victory will be ours.

In conclusion, he called for greater cooperation between the two countries of Iran and Sudan.

For his part, President Hashemi-Rafsanjani thanked the president of Sudan for his message and expressed his satisfaction at the growing trend in cooperation between the two Islamic countries of Iran and Sudan. He stated: We have been familiar with Sudan since before the revolution and we would like to cooperate further with that Islamic country.

Pointing to the rebellion in southern Sudan, our president called the war in southern Sudan a war of Islam against blasphemy and announcd his support for Islamic movements in that country. He added: To please God and in recognition of the righteousness of Islam, the Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to help the Sudanese muslims.

It is worth noting that Mr. Torkan, our defense minister, was also present at this meeting.

Paper Links Al-Khiyam Releases, Hostages

NC0310091690 Paris AFP in English 0849 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Tehran, Oct 3 (AFP)—A leading Iranian newspaper Wednesday hailed the release of 40 prisoners by an Israeli-backed militia and said if the West makes further goodwill gestures its hostages in Lebanon could be freed by the end of the year. "It is hoped that Western countries who have undeniable influence upon Israel and its mercenaries will exert more pressure on them to release greater numbers of Muslim hostages," said the English-language TEHRAN TIMES, which is close to the government of President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

"If the West goes ahead and responds with a true gesture of good will it can be hopeful that the problem of hostages in Lebanon will be solved by the end of the current year." The South Lebanon Army (SLA), armed and financed by Israel, on Monday freed 40 detainees from the al-Khiyam prison in the Israeli-imposed "security zone" in southern Lebanon.

Nearly 300 people are being held in al-Khiyam on charges of supporting the anti-Israeli resistance movement in the region. The International Committee of the Red Cross is barred from the prison. Iran and pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim groups holding Western hostages in Lebanon have repeatedly demanded the release of al-Khiyam prisoners as part of an exchange.

The TEHRAN TIMES said the release of the 40 prisoners by the SLA, "obviously a mercenary of the Israeli regime," apparently took place "under Western pressure." The United States welcomed the SLA move. "It is consistent with our position that for humanitarian reasons all persons being detained without legal basis in the Middle East should be released immediately," said U.S. Presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater.

Iran and Syria, a major power broker in Lebanon, joined forces to arrange the release in April of two Americans and an Irish hostage in July. Following the liberation of the two Americans, Iranian authorities complained that Washington did not reciprocate with an appropriate gesture of good will. Twelve Westerners are being held in Lebanon, most of whom are believed to be in the hands of pro-Iranian Shiite groups.

Deputy Foreign Minister Comments on Persian Gulf

NC0310084490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] In his speech to the session of Islamic foreign ministers in New York last night, the deputy foreign minister for international affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran pointed to Iraq's aggression against Kuwait and the presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf and said: This aggression occurred when the Islamic ummah needs fraternity and unity more than anything else in order to confront the aggressions by the regime occupying Jerusalem. He added: Unfortunately, Iraq's aggression against Kuwait not only distracted the attention of all Muslims from the main enemy—the regime occupying Jerusalem—but also paved the ground for foreign powers and especially the United States and Western countries to send unlimited forces to the Persian Gulf.

He stressed: The Islamic Republic of Iran places emphasis on the request by the Islamic Conference Organization and international forums for Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait, but it cannot ignore the increasing presence of foreign forces in the region.

Commentary Criticizes Bush's UN Speech

LD0210144290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1104 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings dear listeners. In an unprecedented political about-face yesterday, George Bush, the U.S. President, announced from the podium of the UN General Assembly that the United States wants a peaceful solution to the Persian Gulf crisis and added: The withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait may create an opportunity for the resolution of all the Middle East's problems.

Linking the resolution of Middle Eastern problems with the resolution of the Persian Gulf crisis is contrary to the previous stance of the United States, which viewed the Palestinian crisis as being separate from the Kuwaiti crisis, and this fact is interpreted in various ways by political analysts. Political circles believe the U.S. President's recent remarks were a propaganda exercise. The interpretation of these circles is that, in the past, the United States has never wanted to take a serious step toward the resolution of the Palestinian problem and has done nothing other than to give all-around and active support to all of Israel's criminal actions and to veto anti-Zionist resolutions. In the course of the Kuwaiti crisis, however, it has on the one hand approved resolution after resolution against Iraq in the Security Council, and on the other, brought its army into the region to try to fulfill long-term aims for itself.

This contradictory response by the United States has aroused the enmity of Muslims against that country and, for that reason, Bush, by making vague promises about the resolution of the Palestinian crisis, is trying to reduce Muslim hostility against the United States and the West.

Some other circles believe that France, by understanding the sensitivity of the people of the region to the ideal of Palestine and Muslim sanctities, has, since the beginning of the crisis, tried to gain popularity and to distance itself from the hostility and enmity of the region's people by adopting a soft stance and by linking the Persian Gulf and the Middle Eastern crises and stressing the need for solving all of them. Whereas the United States has insisted on separating the two crises and on openly supporting the Zionist regime, it has not paid the least attention to the sentiments of the people of the region. And that fact has aroused the people's sentiments against the United States.

The sense of danger felt by the United States with regard to the intensification of the anti-U.S. wave which is engulfing the entire region made that country resort to a propaganda ploy aimed at foiling France's policy of gaining popularity, as well as saving itself from the wrath of the Muslim people of the region. The measure taken by Bush in linking the resolution of the Middle East problem to the resolution of the Kuwaiti crisis may be a reaction to a proposal for the simultaneous resolution of all the region's crises, because, in the view of the analysts, with that proposal, Iraq has put its finger on the West's fundamental weak point in the region and has tried, thereby, to mobilize public opinion against the United States and to confront it with the Muslim masses of the region which consider that ideal [of a liberated Palestine] to be sacred.

With his recent about-face, Bush is trying to put the ball back in Saddam's court and tell the public of the region that an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait can help resolve the Middle East's problems. At any rate, political games to gain greater advantage from the Persian Gulf crisis continue. And following Saddam's change of tune, the United States and the West are also trying to change their tune. The fundamental solution to the crisis, however, lies in changes in positions; something which neither the United States nor Iraq has so far been prepared to do.

Commentary Says U.S. Seeks Military Clash

LD2609210990 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Unattributed political commentary]

[Text] Yesterday, UN Security Council by releasing a resolution announced its positive opinion concerning Iraq's air blockade. Based on this resolution, so far [so long as] Kuwait remains under the Iraqi forces occupation, all air traffic to and from Iraq will be prohibited and in case of any breach in this regard the defaulting plane will be intercepted.

In this way, with the approval of the latest resolution, Iraq's economic blockade will be complete. According to Western officials' predictions, Iraq will be greatly weakened in the near future as the result of the pressures being exerted on it externally. In fact, the Americans hope that this embargo [will] prove so effective that in the event of a military operation against Iraq, they [will] manage to topple the Baghdad regime within a very brief period.

The Americans' optimism about [the] effectiveness of economic sanctions mostly stems from the fact that the Soviet Union in its capacity as the most important former ally of Iraq has cast positive votes in favor of all the Security Council resolutions related to the Persian Gulf crisis. This (?issue) was considered by the Americans as a guarantee for their subsequent measures. Despite the fact that the U.S. Secretary of State, James Baker, in his speeches has constantly referred to his country's desire for an amicable settlement of the Persian Gulf turmoil, the trend of U.S. measures clearly denotes that Washington by adopting a policy of exerting gradual pressure upon Baghdad and bolstering its military presence in the region is taking the crisis towards a direction it may eventually convince the United Nations of the need for a military confrontation in the Persian Gulf.

At present, irrespective of the efforts being made by the two sides involved in the Persian Gulf crisis to find a political solution, [the] rift still continues between them. According to political observers, in case the existing stalemate is not broken soon, [the] escalation of tension in the region will become unavoidable, thus endangering the regional states' security.

The Americans are now thinking as hard to preserve their political supremacy in the region and safeguard the Western interests. In this respect, they intend to at least enforce a security system through the regional states, backed and directly supervised by the Americans themselves. The Arab lower states of the Persian Gulf region will act as major elements of this system. Washington hopes that with the total support of these countries it will be able to justify its long-term presence in the area.

The fact of the matter is that public opinion in the region with the passage of time will become more hostile towards the U.S. troops' presence in the Persian Gulf and pose serious threats to U.S. interests. One of the problems to be faced by the Americans in the near future is the existence of shaky regimes among the Arab states. It now appears that in [the] not too distant future Washington will come across some major problems in relation to those regional Arab states which are pinning hope in U.S. protection. It is indisputable that these governments even after the termination of the crisis will need greater U.S. backing. In the event of any negligence on the part of America in extending financial and military aid to them their collapse will become imminent.

Commentary Notes Increasing Israeli 'Readiness'

LD0210213390 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In connection with the latest news and developments pertaining to the Persian Gulf crisis, one can mention the speech made by the U.S. President, George Bush, at the UN General Assembly session, where he has sought a peaceful settlement of the crisis.

These slogans come from him at a time when there are indications on further complication of the turmoil and the advance toward a military confrontation. While prime condition insisted upon by the U.S.-led West and the Arab states opposed to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait continues to be unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait, Baghdad is persisting with the annexation of Kuwait as refusal to make any retreat of the same object.

Under these circumstances, prospect of a peaceful solution, at least within a brief period, is not so visible. Among the signs which strengthen the likely occurrence of a military confrontation in the region are the U.S. efforts on holding talks with the Soviet Union and its allies in order to get a resolution approved by the UN Security Council on use of military force against Iraq for driving it out of Kuwait.

Last week, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, in the course of a speech, had warned Iraq, saying that the United Nations had at its disposal military resources for terminating Iraqi aggression.

In the midst, it can be said that the most of the military efforts, as well as plans set forth by various circles to peacefully settle the issue, have so far proved abortive. Moreover, the gap among the Arab states is becoming deeper on the account of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, and this matter in itself has further weakened the chances of bringing about an understanding or opening parties and contacts among them. At any rate, the group opposed to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait stresses the point that there exists no solution other than unconditional withdrawal of Kuwait—rather, Iraq from Kuwait—and in case of its failure, the eruption of war in the Persian Gulf will become unavoidable.

Meanwhile, the dispatch of multinational forces to the Persian Gulf continues unabated. America, France, and Britain, by maintaining fifty, fifteen, and ten warships in the Persian Gulf, rank first, second, and third, respectively, in having a vast military presence there.

In related news, the announcement on distribution of gas masks among the residents of the occupied Palestine can be construed as a sign of the nearing of the war. The Zionist regime until recent times contended that it had kept itself away from the Persian Gulf crisis. But, it has sent a reciprocal threat in response to those of Saddam Husayn on attacking Israel and, from the early days of the ongoing crisis, has put its troops on alert. Although since the onset of the crisis, the distribution of gas masks has come across opposition from some of the Zionist officials, due to its being treated as an instigating move by the opposing side.

However, with the decision to distribute gas masks among its population, there is observed a new phase in Israel's readiness to get entangled in probable military confrontation.

Despite such threats from both sides and the escalation of the risk of the war, there are many circles on the world scenes which are calling upon the international community to keep away from military options for settling the Persian Gulf crisis, for they believe that a clash in the region will lead to a catastrophe not only for the regional nations but also for the entire globe.

Paper Warns Saudi Arabia To 'Reconsider' Policy

LD0210115190 Tehran IRNA in English 1017 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 2, IRNA—The Persian daily 'JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI' Tuesday commented on the recent change in approach of world countries towards Iran and singled out Saudi Arabia as an example.

It said that the Saudi regime has been hostile towards the Islamic Republic, has never abandoned its criminal and malice policies and has not missed any opportunity to demonstrate its animosity.

According to the paper, views on this shift in attitude towards Iran, eagerness of many countries to establish contacts with the Islamic Republic and remarks of statesmen on importance of the Islamic Republic, can be put into three groups.

One view is that the campaign is a sign of stability and strength of Iran in the international arena and more important, in the region. This means [words indistinct] of efforts by the world arrogance to isolate Iran.

As for the second group, it holds that there is no change in policy of the world arrogance towards Iran and that the oppressors in their efforts to approach Iran are after their own interests.

The third one, however, rejects the first two, believing that what others think of Iran's policies should not be regarded as an absolute criterion for assessment of correctness of views, stands and policies of a system.

The Islamic revolution has introduced a powerful ideology and the oppressors having realised ineffectiveness of their pilots against Iran have now embarked on a new path, this (?group) [words indistinct].

They also believe that this, neither means the end of hostility of oppressors against Iran nor indicates Iran's entrapment in their tricks or Iran's retreat from its ideals.

The paper supported the third approach as being in conformity with realities. "Neither we, nor they (the arrogance) have changed. Only current circumstances are different," they added.

The nation tolerated all hardships in order to preserve its ideals until it achieved the final victory. In continuation of this path, it sees no reason to reconsider this policy. With failure of political and propaganda plots of enemies of Islam, if world countries feel that they must lay the foundation for a solid and independent tie with Iran and establish better understanding with the biggest regional power, then the move must be welcomed, wrote the paper.

Referring to the Monday statement of the Saudi foreign minister in his talks with his Iranian counterpart that Saudi Arabia welcomes the Iranian pilgrims, the paper said, Riyadh should realize that it cannot change things by making impressive statements and resume its barbaric policies the next day.

Riyadh must reconsider its incorrect policies towards the Islamic world, Iran in particular, and should understand that an issue more urgent than the Hajj ceremonies for Muslims is presence of foreign forces in the Islamic holy lands, it concluded.

Paper Warns of Permanent Western Presence in Gulf

NC2809185890 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 6 Sep 90 p 2

[Unattributed commentary from the "Weekly Political Analysis" column: "America Preparing for a Permanent Presence in the Area"]

[Excerpts] The crisis stemming from the military occupation of Kuwait gained more extensive dimensions this week and the increased presence of the NATO armies created a new situation in the region. It has now become gradually clear that the objective behind the presence of America and of the other NATO armies in the region was not to confront and fight Iraq's decisions and acts, but that the very essence of presence in this area is more important to them than the operations that their troops can carry out. [passage omitted]

If Washington could plunder the region's resources and kept everything for itself, it would certainly not hesitate and would not allow its allies and major hirelings among its European allies, especially Britain, the opportunity to act. But the situation today is complicated. Therefore America is looking for an "accomplice" in all the incidents that may occur so that tomorrow it will not be considered the sole perpetrator of the crisis in the heart of the Islamic world's oil-rich area which supplies 70 percent of the world's oil needs. [passage omitted]

After the crumbling of communist systems and the setting of the East Bloc's star of power, Washington needed a new pretext for maintaining NATO's immense military capacity. Washington feels that this justification and pretext have now emerged with Iraq's military aggression against Kuwait, and by directing world propaganda it can grant the necessary legitimacy to the need to preserve such power in the Persian Gulf region forever. This is the futile hope that Washington and some of its allies entertain. But the course of events will not ultimately benefit the interfering NATO forces and enable NATO to maintain its military presence in the region forever. Thus it has no other alternative but to think of the Muslim's rage and wrath and to take this factor—a factor that can shake the ground under the aggressors' feet of the aggressors and repeat the "Lebanon nightmare" for them—into consideration.

Radio Says Withdrawal of All Sides Can End Crisis

NC0310103290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0600 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Political commentary from the "Voice of the Front" program]

[Excerpts] One of the important problems related to the regional crisis is the presence of foreign and multinational forces in the Arabian Peninsula; this includes the problem of who will command the Western forces in the Persian Gulf. [passage omitted]

Foreign observers say that in time of war the multinational forces should unite in order to divide duties. Under such conditions and in view of all the facts, the basic role will be played by the country with the largest number of men in its forces—in other words, the United States. A French expert says that at the outset of a war, forces will unify autonomatically but under the command of the United States.

Actually in view of these experts, the large number of forces is only to the benefit of the United States, which wants to reap the most fruits for itself. Thus, the operation of a multinational force under American command is now a reality on the scene of regional political developments. [passage omitted]

Both Riyadh and West Europe and the United States are concerned over the problem of the command of the Western forces in Saudi Arabia. But the important issue is that Washington is trying to place everything under its control, and, by exploiting its allies' military, political, and economic resources in the best way possible, it is trying to build up its strength in order to make the best use of it in the sensitive Persian Gulf area in the future. [passage omitted]

Therefore, as the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly announced, America's objective is to exploit Iraq's aggression against Kuwait, to establish its own presence completely, and to take possession of the region's economic resources and oil wealth. Thus, the best way to end the crisis is for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait and for the multinational forces under American command to withdraw from the region.

*Commentary Warns Against Cooperation With Iraq

90AS0462G London KEYHAN in Persian 20 Sep 90 p 3

[Text] In those worrisome days when England stood alone against Hitler, Prime Minister Winston Churchill told parliament: Even if Hitler attacked hell, I would at least sympathize with the devil.

Now that Iraq has occupied Kuwait in the style of Hitler, America is taking advantage of the cooperation of tourist-nurturing Syria. This is at a time when Jordan, an old friend of the West, is supporting Saddam Husayn, and Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i is speaking in favor of an enemy who fought Iran for eight years.

Now Khamene'i, Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, and Mohtashemi think the time is right to emerge from the isolation from power imposed on them by Rafsanjani. They have taken the presence of Western forces, especially the United States, as a pretext to attack the policies of Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who they believe has betrayed the Islamic revolution.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani has accepted everything Saddam Husayn has given Iran without giving anything in return. He knows that he cannot alleviate Iran's economic difficulties merely by coming closer to the West and obtaining the cooperation of America and the Soviet Union. He has even used the recent earthquake in Gilan and Zanjan to make his opponents realize how foolish it is to reject Western aid for earthquake victims.

Before Iraq's attack on Kuwait, everything was going well for opening mutual understanding with America. Talks between the representatives of Hashemi-Rafsanjani and the United States at The Hague had reached hopeful conclusions, and America was soon to free another large quantity of impounded Iranian assets.

Circumstances have now changed, however. Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i has proclaimed a holy war against American forces in the Persian Gulf. Secret agreements were implemented between Iraq and Iran during Tariq 'Aziz's visit to Tehran. It is even possible that in exchange for sending food to Iraq Iran may obtain kerosene needed for domestic consumption from Iraq.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani's divided statements: On the one hand he emphasizes the observance of the UN Security Council resolution and the economic embargo against Iraq, and on the other hand the criticism of the presence of American forces in the Persian Gulf puts him in the position that under various pretexts he can secretly violate the UN Security Council resolution. The passage of trucks laden with food across the long border between the two countries can be justified on the pretext that it is not possible to monitor the border between the two countries and also on the grounds that two-thirds of the people of Iraq are Shiites. Ultimately, however, he needs American dollars and technical assistance.

In the midst of this, Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i is playing a role that effectively benefits Hashemi-Rafsanjani. He speaks for the people and shows that if necessary he can prevent Hashemi-Rafsanjani from getting close to the West.

The worst of it for the Americans is that Iran's cooperation with Iraq is actually taking place. Just as cooperation between the two countries in OPEC led to an increase in the official price of oil to $21 per barrel, if the two countries cooperate seriously, no one in the area can get around them.

Such saerious cooperation even worries the Soviet Union. Even now there is talk of annexing Soviet Azerbayjan to Iranian Azarbaijan and spreading the thoughts of Ayatollah Khomeyni among the other Muslim republics of the Soviet Union.

It appears that Iraq is sincerely trying to convert its old enemy Iran to a committed friend. The likelihood of a close relationship and an alliance between Iran and Iraq confirms the view that if Iraq is to be attacked, it must be done as quickly as possible.

Excerpts from an article by John Block of London's INDEPENDENT.

Returning Nationals Say Kuwait 'Chaotic'

LD0110193590 Tehran IRNA in English 1505 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Ahvaz (Khuzestan), Oct 1, IRNA—The number of Iranians arriving home from Kuwait has risen with 150 people entering Iran via the Shalamcheh border crossing with Iraq in 50 cars since Friday. Interviewed by IRNA, several returnees most of whom lived almost all their lives in Kuwait, said the recent circular issued by Baghdad calling on Kuwaitis to change their identity cards to Iraqi ones and the escalation of the Persian Gulf crisis were reason for their decision to leave Kuwait.

They said the circular gave Iranians having Kuwaiti spouses a month's notice to accept Iraqi citizenship, leaving them with no other choice but to return to Iran the country of their origin. They also said that Kuwaitis unwilling to change their citizenship will have to send their children to Baghdad for military service. Terming the situation in Kuwait "chaotic," they confirmed that foodstuff was scarce in the tiny oil-rich state invaded and annexed by Iraq on August 2.

Soviet Envoy Predicts Increased Trade Figures

LD0210180790 Tehran IRNA in English 1334 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 2, IRNA—The Islamic Republic of Iran and the Soviet Union are to start cooperation for implementation of 19 projects in transportation, agriculture, light and heavy industries, fisheries, gas and oil, the Soviet ambassador to Iran said here Tuesday. Speaking at a ceremony marking the Soviet Union's national day at the 16th Tehran International Trade Fair, Vladimir Gudev predicted that the volume of trade exchanges between the two countries would reach dollars 600 million, this year, twce as many as the last year's.

Morteza Bank, director-general for the Foreign Ministry's Department for Eastern Europe, who was present at the event, said the increase in the volume of trade exchanges was one of the achievements gained in the new stage of mutual relations. He said the resumption of gas exports to the Soviet Union by Iran has served to open a new chapter in Tehran-Moscow relations, hoping that both Iran and the Soviet Union could meet Europe's needs for natural gas. The official regretted that the pace of bilateral cooperation in certain fields was not as fast as expected and expressed hope that the issue would be solved soon.

Further on Remarks

LD0310084490 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] This morning the USSR national day was celebrated at the 16th Tehran International Fair. At this ceremony, the Soviet ambassador to Iran said that Soviet participation in this Fair is a sign of the USSR's interest in expanding relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] and added: The transfer of technology, expansion of economic cooperation and the increase in the volume of commercial transactions with the IRI is one of the aims and programs of the USSR. He said: It is predicted that the volume of commercial exchanges between the two countries this year will increase 100 percent compared with last year and reach $600 million.

At the ceremony, the director general of the Eastern European Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also stressed: The increase in the volume of the commercial and economic exchanges between Iran and the Soviet Union is one the achievements of the new stage in relations between the two countries.

Turkish Industry Minister Departs 2 Oct

NC0210113590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] The Turkish industry minister came to Tehran at Minister of Heavy Industries Mr. Nezhad-Hoseynian's invitation. He came for talks and to become acquainted with the capability of our country's industrial units at the 16th Tehran Trade International Fair, and then left Tehran this morning.

During his visit to the heavy industries' pavilion at the Tehran International Fair, the Turkish industry minister became acquainted with our country's industry and stated that, in view of their industrial strength and capability, Iran and Turkey can have satisfactory industrial cooperation.

At the talks between the two countries' ministers, it was decided to send a delegation from Turkey to participate in the seminar which is to be held in Tehran within the next few days so that favorable means to expand industrial relations between the two countries can be found.

Commentary Views Bush-Ozal Meeting

NC0210122390 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Reports say that during his talks with President George Bush in Washington, President Turgut Ozal of Turkey was promised that the United States will extend the economic aid Turkey now needs. George Bush has informed Ozal that the United States will give extraordinary economic aid to Turkey.

Political observers believe that the meeting between Bush and Ozal, the first since the beginning of the Gulf crisis on 2 August, is of significance. In view of its special political and economic situation in the region, since Kuwait's occupation, Turkey has attracted significant interest from the Western countries, the United States, and Iraq. Turkey has halted the flow of Iraqi oil through the pipelines in its territory with a view to protest against Iraq's assault on Kuwait. This was its first firm step against the attack on Kuwait. However, Turkey now tops the list of the countries which have suffered greatly as a result of severing its trade relations with Iraq. In an interview with a Turkish newspaper recently, Turgut Ozal condemned Iraq's attack on Kuwait and predicted that the political life of the present regime in Baghdad will end in the near future.

Turkey's approach on the Gulf crisis and the support it has given to U.S. policy is based on the following: According to the calculations it has made, Turkey believes that, instead of maintaining economic and trade relations with Iraq, it stands to gain more by supporting the Western world on matters related to the Gulf crisis.

Although Turkey has sustained a significant loss by severing its trade relations with Iraq and cutting the flow of Iraqi oil through its territory, the erasing of $7 billion from Turkey's debts to the United States, which George Bush is reported to have approved, can be regarded as the first result of Turkey's stand on the Gulf crisis. Meanwhile, the Turkish Government has tried to draw the attention of the United States and its allies in Europe to its sensitive and strategic position in the region by the authority it has received from the Turkish parliament either to send a military force to the Gulf region or to contribute toward establishing a multinational force. On the other hand, Turkey is trying to use the existing situation to display its capability in various fields with the hope that the EEC members will adopt a positive approach to its application for EEC membership. It seems that George Bush and Turgut Ozal have discussed this matter during their recent meeting. Meanwhile, it has been observed that Turgut Ozal has secured significant support from George Bush for Turkey's membership in the EEC.

It has been nearly two months since the outbreak of the Gulf crisis. New incidents and developments are expected in the region. However, to what extent Turkey's policies, particularly its economic policy, will be successful and to what extent Turkey will be successful in rectifying its economic situation will depend on various factors. The course of the Gulf crisis and the possible developments that will take place in the near future will bring to light many vague factors which have remained undisclosed thus far.

*State Second Major Supplier of Oil to Turkey

90AS04621 London KEYHAN in Persian 20 Sep 90 p 4

[Text] By exporting about 1.835 million tons of crude oil to Turkey in the first six months of 1990, the Islamic Republic became the second largest supplier of oil to Turkey, after Iraq. Sources on Turkish commerce statistics put the value of oil bought from the Islamic Republic in this period at about $250.4 million. Experts on economic affairs believe that with the cutoff of Iraq's oil exports to Turkey in the framework of the economic embargo against the Baghdad regime, Ankara will be forced to purchase this substance from other oil-rich nations such as the Islamic Republic, Saudi Arabia, Libya, and the United Arab Emirates.

The Turkish Foreign Trade Organization recently published a statistical report in which it announced that in the first six months of 1990 this country bought about 9.5 million tons of crude oil from oil-rich nations at a cost of more than $1.3 billion. In part of its statistical report, the organization wrote that in the period under discussion Iraq became the largest exporter of oil to this country by exporting about 5.7 tons of crude oil to Turkey. In addition to purchasing oil from Iraq and the Islamic Republic, every year Turkey will buy quantities of oil from Libya, the Soviet Union, Algeria, and several other oil-rich nations of the Persian Gulf.

Human Rights Group Reports Prisoners Execution

LD0210140590 Hamburg DPA in German 1255 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Frankfurt/Main (DPA)—According to the International Society for Human Rights [ISHR], at least five political prisoners have been executed in Iran. This was reported by the organization in Frankfurt on Tuesday. Four men and one woman who were part of a group of 23 political prisoners, whose death sentences the ISHR claims to have discovered in June this year, are now no longer alive. The other 18 sentenced to death—eleven men and seven women—are awaiting execution. According to the ISHR, one prisoner is to be executed within the next few days.

The prisoners have been detained without trial for several years, a statement by the human rights organization said. There was a "blanket charge" of "spying for the CIA", the U.S. service, against the male prisoners. Once again 20 people were arrested in Iran in August. They, too, were threatened with the death penalty.

Majles Deputies Question Guardians Decisions

Disagree on Eligibility

LD0210124490 Tehran IRNA in English 1031 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 2, IRNA—Two Majles deputies here Tuesday strongly castigated recent decisions by the Guardians Council on eligibility of the candidates for the second term of the Assembly of Experts. Elections for the assembly will be held on October 8 and last Friday the substitute Friday prayers leader Ayatollah Emami Kashani called for an all-out participation in the elections.

Elias Hazrati, deputy for Rasht, capital of the Caspian Province of Gilan, stressed that in order to treat on the path of the late Imam Khomeyni, responsibilities of the country should be equally divided among various factions. Holding of power by a specific faction and elimination of others is a grave mistake and the most acute danger for the system, he noted.

The heated debate in the Majles over the elections started last Saturday when a list of 109 candidates whose eligibility had been approved by the Guardians Council was published in the press. The experts assembly is an 83-member body who are elected for an 8-year term and whose main responsibility is to elect a leader for the Islamic Republic whenever the situation demands.

In this connection, Hazrati criticized turning down three candidates, Hojjat ol-Eslams Mehdi Karrubi, Gholam Hoseyn Jami, and Sadeq Khalkhali, Majles speaker, Abadan Friday prayers leader, and Majles deputy respectively. Meanwhile, Assadollah Bayat, deputy for Zanjan, referred to the approval of the eligibility of only 109 candidates out of 169 by the Guardians Council.

"In my opinion, this is not elections but rather an appointment," said the deputy. However, he expressed hope that the Guardians Council would act vigilantly and make careful consideration in this regard.

Assembly Endorses Candidates Bill

LD0210124690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] The Majles held an open session today. According to the Central News Unit, in today's open session of the Majles, which was chaired by Mr. Hashemian, the deputy speaker of the Majles, the draft bill on the endorsement of the number of the candidates for the elections was submitted to the Majles with triple urgency. The Majles endorsed it as a double urgency bill.

Finance Officials Meet Pakistan, Austria Envoys

LD2809185890 Tehran IRNA in English 1543 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Washington, Sept. 28, IRNA—Iran's Minister of Economy and Finance Mohsen Nurbakhsh here on Thursday met with Pakistani Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs Sartaj Aziz. The iranian minister and his Pakistani counterpart reviewed the various issues of the Persian Gulf region and topics in relation with the cooperation between Tehran and Islamabad especially within the framework of their membership at the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO). Iran, Pakistan and Turkey are the members of the tripartite body.

The finance ministers of Iran and Pakistan are in Washington for the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB). In a similar meeting Governor of Central Bank of Iran Mohammad Hussein Adeli who is among the Iranian delegation to the IMF-WB meeting, on Thursday held talks with the governor of Austria's central bank. The current developments in the banking system of Iran and issues of mutual interest were discussed by the officials.

The Austrian banker extended an invitation to a group of Iranian banking officials to visit Vienna in order to learn about the banking system in Austria. The proposal was accepted by the Iranian official and the time for the visit was agreed to be made on a mutually acceptable date.

Finance Minister Reports on IMF Meetings

LD0210203390 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Economy and Finance Minister Nurbakhsh told our correspondent on returning from the joint IMF-World Bank session:

This meeting included discussions on the Islamic Republic of Iran's stand on the Persian Gulf crisis and on the importance of cooperation among the petroleum exporting and consuming countries to achieve stability in the oil market.

Nurbakhsh continued: In our meeting with the World Bank president, the facilities that this bank is considering for the reconstruciton of those areas of the country affected by the recent earthquake were discussed and, to that end, it was decided that a delegation of the world bank would visit Iran in the next few days.

He added: In the meeting with the French finance minister, it was decided that he propose a specific plan to eliminate existing differences and explore the ways for mutual cooperation. The finance ministers of the two countries are to hold their future meeting on this basis.

He said: The strategic economic cooperation between Iran and Japan were discussed in a meeting with the finance minister of that country, and the Japanese counterpart expressed his interest in certain joint programs announced earlier.

In conclusion, Mr. Nurbakhsh pointed to his meeting with hundreds of Iranians residing in New York and said: The economic programs of the country, cooperation with Iranians residing abroad on different grounds, and the use of their expertise were discussed.

Nuclear Energy Official Reports IAEA Ruling

LD2909121990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] On the basis of a resolution proposed by the Islamic Republic of Iran, which was approved by the 34th annual conference of International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], any kind of military attack on nuclear installations under construction or in operation is banned.

Mr. Amrollahi, deputy president and the director of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization, when speaking at a press conference, referred to the resolution proposed by Iran. He said: According to the resolution, should there be an attack or a threat, the UN Security Council will, on the basis of the UN Charter, take the necessary steps.

Referring to the issue of nuclear energy providing the world's future energy, Mr. Amrollahi said: The present crisis and its effects on the price of oil is a warning to the Third World countries to diversify and make use of all different types of energy. Referring to the fact that nuclear energy would help reduce reliance on oil, Mr. Amrollahi called on Iranian nuclear energy experts and researchers in foreign countries to return to their homeland so that their scientific knowledge may be used in the country's reconstruction.

Vahaji on Trade Ties With African Countries

NC2909094890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Commerce Minister Vahaji returned to Tehran this morning and termed the results of his and his accompanying delegation's visit to the African countries of Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Uganda, and Kenya as excellent.

Speaking to our correspondent, the commerce minister said that there is great opportunity for the export of Iranian goods to African countries. He added: During this visit, talks were held on the export of agricultural machinery, buses, minibuses and rolling stock to these countries, and it was decided that Iran should import corn, tea, and various kinds of paper from Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Uganda, and Kenya.

Editorial Warns of Continued Hostility to Islam

NC2909050390 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 18 Sep 90 pp 1, 2

[Editorial: "The Fruit of 10 Years of Patience and Resistance"]

[Excerpts] We are on the eve of the 10th anniversary of the imposed war. But this anniversary is being marked at a time when our free men are with us, when the enemy has withdrawn beyond the border, and when the Islamic Republic's just conditions have been met. [passage omitted]

Today everything has been clarified, and there is no need for us to go to great pains to prove a point on the nature of the war. Today everyone has confessed and brought to light details of and objectives behind the war. Iraq has confessed that it started and continued this war in order to confront the Islamic revolution and to safeguard the West's interests. America has confessed that it played a direct role in this war. France has confessed that it was the unconditional mentor of the aggressor and that in the first days of the war, the main members of the Security Council reached an agreement on supporting Iraq and opposing Iran in the stands they adopted and in the resolutions they issued. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and the rest of the dishonorable Arab kings have confessed to their role in the war, and again, Iraq recently confessed to the direct role played by America and Israel in protracting the war against the Islamic revolution.

The dossier of the war was incomplete without these confessions and the war's fomenters had to make confessions and to relate truths at some point. But there are still many realities that have not yet come to light but will be revealed soon. [passage omitted]

The Iraqi aggression, as the Baghdad leaders themselves confess today, should be viewed in the context of "an attack on Islam" and "an attack against the Islamic revolution." It is only when we view it in this context that we will realize why all the crimes, the killings, and the inhuman acts were perpetrated. The front of arrogance, both in its eastern and its western forms, not only did not oppose these crimes, but it did its best to equip, support, and encourage the aggressor in perpetrating more and more war crimes.

The Soviet Union and many countries of the disintegrated East bloc, America, almost all of America's allies throughout the world, and the treacherous front of Arab reaction were all mentors of Iraq who encouraged it to perpetrate more and more war crimes against the Iranian nation.

The contemporary world stood by silently while Iraq used chemical weapons for about five years. The war of cities, the savage missile attacks, the bombing of cities and villages, and the tankers' war, all of which were aimed at cutting off the artery of Iran's oil exports were all parts of one major policy. But today the same policies and the same weapons are being used in a different way in a war and a countdown among the enemies of the Islamic revolution.

The fire that the enemies of humanity had sparked off against us is today burning them up. Each and every one of these enemies is trying to find a way to escape. Today Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the front of Arab reaction are being threatened by the very arms that they gave to the Baghdad leaders; this is one of the awe-inspiring points in the dossier of the war.

Today many of the points and warnings that the Islamic Republic's system and officials made during the eight years of the imposed war are becoming clear. Some have even materialized. Iran warned about "the consequences of encouraging the aggressor" and today the aggressor's mentors are reaping all the fruits of their treachery. Today the Islamic Republic is warning about the consequences of allowing America and the NATO armies to come to the heart of the oil-rich Islamic world and is clearly stating that this phenomenon cannot be tolerated.

Even though the imposed war has ended, it is clear that the hostility and rancor of those who imposed the war on us will never end. Only by staying alert, by maintaining the political-military supremacy of the revolution, and by preparing in the best way possible to confront any new effort by the enemies of the Islamic revolution can we safeguard the revolution from any fresh attempts against it. From now on, these fresh attempts will probably not be military. The enemies of Islam will probably try to open up a front in the political, economic, cultural, and propaganda fields. It is precisely for this reason that we should make the necessary preparations to confront any possible attempts. [passage omitted]

*Friday Imam Reportedly Pockets Oil Pipes Sales

90AS0462F London KEYHAN in Persian 20 Sep 90 p 2

[Text] Gholamreza Aqazadeh, the Islamic Republic regime's minister of petroleum, was questioned by the Majles deputies from Esfahan and Behbehan concerning the way oil pipes were sold by the Friday Imam of Masjed-e Soleyman and the embezzlement of 650 million rials of this oil pipe money by the Friday Imam. He did not give convincing answers. For this reason, the question was sent to the Questions Investigation Commission for further study.

Mohammad Rashidian, the representative from Abadan, discussed the Masjed-e Soleyman Friday Imam's abuses at the public Majles session of 4 Shahrivar [26 August]. He said: The Ministry of Petroleum sold large quantities of oil pipes through the Masjed-e Soleyman Friday Imam, the proceeds of which went into this individual's personal bank account and were used for personal expenses.

He then asked the minister of petroleum: Why did the Ministry of Petroleum permit the sale of pipes belonging to the oil company—even if it could not use them—by an individual or for example the Friday imam of a city? This is illegal. There is a specific procedure for the sale of assets and materials owned by government companies and ministries. Secondly, what happened to the assets and money obtained from the sale of these materials? Is it right for ssets belonging to the public treasury to be be used for the personal expenses of an individual?

Gholamreza Aqazadeh, minister of petroleum, came to the Majles to answer this question. He answered:

Several years ago the Masjed-e Soleyman Friday Imam asked the Ministry of Petroleum for permission to use money obtained from the sale of surplus pipes for development work. He was asked to go through legal procedures in so doing, but this was done before going through the legal procedures, and a number of hese pipes were sold for 650 million rials.

Gholamreza Aqazadeh added: Following this, the oil company board, chaired by the prime minister (Engineer Musavi) met and after the necessary consideration approved a specific method for spending the funds obtained from the sale of the pipes, and on that basis the funds were to be given to the governor-general of Khuzestan and the manager of the oil-rich areas for development work. After this measure was announced to the governor-general of Khuzestan, the Masjed-e Soleyman Friday Imam was asked to turn the funds over to the governor-general, but unfortunately it became clear that all the funds had been spent by the Masjed-e Soleyman Friday Imam on various matters.

According to people who are close to the Islamic Republic's organizations and officials, the plundering of public assets by Friday imams of various cities and by preachers who have taken hold of private and government institutions has gotten out of hand. It is said that Ayatollah Va'ez Tabasi deputy administrator of the Qods Razavi Foundation and Khamene'i's representative in the Province of Khorasan, who controls hundreds of billions of rials in religious endowments, has more extensive resources that others for plundering public assets.

*Participants Named for Tehran Exhibition

90AS0462K London KEYHAN in Persian 20 Sep 90 p 4

[Text] So far 41 countries have announced their willingness to take part in the 16th Tehran International Exhibition, to be held in Tehran from 2-10 October this year, and seven other countries will likely be added to the list in the next few days. The Public Relations Office of the Center for Exports gave the following list of names of countries whose participation has been confirmed in the Tehran International Exhibition: Italy, Austria, West Germany, East Germany, Ireland, Australia, China, Czechoslovakia, Oman, Hungary, Taiwan, Poland, New Zealand, Denmark, the Netherlands, Yugoslavia, Finland, Norway, Singapore, Kenya, the Soviet Union, Turkey, Switzerland, Spain, Bulgaria, Sweden, South Korea, North Korea, Canada, Belgium, France, Romania, Malaysia, Indonesia, Japan, India, Libya, Brazil, Pakistan, Greece, and the United Arab Emirates.

The aforementioned public relations spokesman told news reporters that among the foreign nations the greatest amount of booth space is taken by West Germany, and among the domestic exhibitors the largest amount of floor space is taken by the Ministry of Heavy Industries booth.

*Paper Views Activities of Shams Ardakani

*90AS0462L London KEYHAN in Persian
20 Sep 90 p 12*

[Text] A harsh and stubborn opponent has been found for Hasan Habibi, first vice president. A resident of Kuwait before the Islamic revolution and considered close to Khomeyni, he became the Islamic Republic's first ambassador to Kuwait after the revolution. When he said that the Tehran regime ought not to recall its forces from Dhofar in Oman, he was not in harmony with the regime's foreign policy at that time and was called back to Iran.

However, the former diplomat for the Islamic Republic did not withdraw from the regime's foreign policy, and he created an important possibility in the terrorist network. In the case of the killing of 'Abdol-Rahman Qasemlu at Evin Prison and Dr. Kazem Rajavi in Switzerland, the name of 'Ali Shams Ardakani is mentioned along with others. It now seems that Hashemi-Rafsanjani has pulled his active and high-flying pawn out of view in the area of foreign policy, because in an order he personally issued he has appointed him chief of the Qeshm Free Industrial Zone. 'Ali Shams Ardakani is trying to succeed in this new test, as he did in his tests in terrorist circles, and since at the same time he is also deputy minister of mines and metals for international and economic affairs, he has a relatively free hand in the creation of an industrial free zone on Qeshm. With capital of $15 billion, he wants to build on Qeshm a bridge, an airport, a railroad, a port, housing units, health, cultural, and communications centers, and even a university. However, even the most optimistic people do not believe he has that much chance of succeeding.

Hasan Habibi believes that by returning this responsibility to 'Ali Shams Ardakani, Hashemi-Rafsanjani is really sending him on a wild goose chase and he (Hasan Habibi) does not think that an important member of an international terrorist network can find employment in the Islamic Republic worthy of his high-flying activities.

*RESALAT Reports 2 Sep Majles Debate

90AS0447A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 3 Sep 90 p 5

[Text] Yesterday morning the Majles met in public session chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi. During this session the deputies from Langrud, Khorramabad, and Shamshir spoke as pre-agenda speakers. Then Mr. Karrubi gave a talk offering condolences on the passing of the source of emulation in the Shiite world, His Holiness Ayatollah al-'Ozma Mar'ashi-Najafi, and he praised the exalted position of that divine scholar. The Majles then went into its agenda.

Printed below are speeches by the pre-agenda speakers and the detailed proceedings.

Parviz Seyqali, Langrud Deputy

Yesterday's first pre-agenda speaker was Mr. Parviz Seyqali from the Langrud electoral district. He offered abundant praise to the pure spirit of the great imam and the martyrs of the imposed war, and sincere greetings to the exalted leader, the chiefs of the three branches of government, and all those who work for the government. He gave condolences on the death of the source of emulation of Shiites of the world, His Holiness Ayatollah Mar'ashi-Najafi, to the vali-ye faqih [supreme jurisconsult] and the Shiites and Muslims of the world.

Elsewhere in his talk, the speaker discussed the legitimacy of this revolution. He said:

The legitimacy of this revolution is due to the labors of the mobilization, the revolutionary guard and army combatants at the war fronts, the pure blood of martyrs, the suffering of the wounded and the fighters, the midnight prayers of the fathers, mothers, spouses, and children of the martyrs, the maimed and the prisoners of war, the plaintive cries of the free people in the Iraqi prisons in imitation of the seventh imam, and more importantly, it is the imam's endurance of the cup of poison to preserve the principles of the Islamic revolution which has allowed the Muslim people of Iran to see the divine light shining down on the land of the imam of the age.

Continuing, he added: O Imam, although the pain of mourning has been in our hearts no more than a few months, your precious commands shine in the dark world like the full moon. Today Saddam has no alternative but suicide. The man who set thousands of traps for our truth-seeking government is now caught in a divine trap. Of course, Almighty God waits to ambush oppressors. Everyone saw how all his false friends suddenly became implacable foes and I believe that his only hope is an all-out lightning attack against criminal America. Otherwise, in the long run he will be defeated by the economic embargo and military blockade, weakened morale, the disintegration of military forces, and other things. How long can he fight against this? The days of the triumph of the Islamic revolution are these days, after the imposed war, the acceptance of the 1975 Algiers Accord, the withdrawal of forces to international borders, and the release of prisoners, which bring indescribable joy and delight for all families, especially the families of those released from prison.

The Langrud deputy discussed the presence of American forces in the area. He said: The presence of aggressor forces led by criminal America and its satellites in the Persian Gulf and the land of the prophet, noble Mecca, the place of the divine revelation, the shrine of divine faith, the birthplace of Abraham, the hidden imam, the chaste imams, the crusaders on the path of God, is an official and open insult to the Muslims of the world. So what is to become of the honor, dignity, and reputation of Muslims, the zeal and enthusiasm of believers, and the sacrifices of crusaders on the path of God? This is truly a dark stain. Criminal America has no mercy on any of the sheikhs of the Persian Gulf area and the kings of the Arab nations, and all of their fates in the future are tied to that of the amir of Kuwait. It is unfortunate that the Muslims and leaders of the Arab nations do not understand the economic value and the military mobilization of the area. In the past they lined up like fools against our departed imam. Their laughter could be heard at the Arab conferences and councils they formed, but I don't know how they look at one another today.

He then discussed the martyrdom anniversary of the two great teachers of the Islamic revolution, Raja'i and Bahonar. He said: The anniversary of the martyrdom of the dear ones Martyr Raja'i and Martyr Bahonar arrives with a new spirit breathing in the government. In my view the leader of the Islamic revolution, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, announced his full satisfaction with the work of the toiling government in management, politics, economics, and culture, in view of the volume of problems and the earthquake, and of course there is no doubt about that.

The speaker discussed the negative struggles of some government workers who have given the public the run-around, and he called their work a false sacrifice.

He then discussed the extent of the earthquake damage and sending aid to its victims. He said:

After the initial stages of aid and assistance and the necessary coordination in this matter, it must be acknowledged that the next phases of reconstruction of the earthquake-stricken areas will require more work, and two aspects of it must be given sufficient attention. First is the cultural dimension and the spiritual uplifting and healing of the earthquake-stricken people of the provinces of Gilan and Zanjan, and little work has been done in this dimension.

The second thing is the construction of permanent housing and employment, and other issues of the specific staffs and around-the-clock efforts by the other provincial organizations, chief among them the governor-general's offices. These will be successful if the respected government will seriously evaluate and pursue the phases of reconstructing the earthquake-stricken areas as a part of its weekly agenda, and if it will pursue the problems of construction materials and make them available to the respected governor-general's office. Otherwise, all reconstruction will go the way of the progress on classroom space in the earthquake-stricken areas. Help from the people has ended to a great extent. I will use this forum to ask all of Iran and the Muslims of the world to continue with their aid without interruption, and to confer favor on this matter.

In conclusion, the speaker discussed the problems in his electoral district and province, such as attention to the Rasht main road from Langrud to Rasht and from Rasht to Qazvin, the old airport of the city of Rasht, shipping in the Caspian Sea, and the procurement and distribution of potable water. He delivered memos to the appropriate officials and he asked that these problems be alleviated.

'Ali 'Enayat, Khorramabad Deputy

Mr. 'Ali 'Enayat, Khorramabad deputy, was the second pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's public Majles session. In his talk he offered condolences on the death of the divine scholar Ayatollah al-'Ozma Mar'ashi-Najafi, source of emulation for the world of Islam, and he gave congratulations on the return of the dear and fruitful released prisoners. He then discussed the election for the Assembly of Experts. He said:

The active and comprehensive participation of the dear and Muslim nation of Iran in the elections for the Assembly of Experts will certainly be a hard punch in the mouth for the enemies of Islam and the Islamic revolution. God willing, the heroic people of Iran, with their active participation and full vigilance, will thwart the plotters and violators who want, God forbid, to damage the elections.

Elsewhere in his talk, the speaker discussed the pre-agenda speech of Mr. Ha'erizadeh in the previous Majles session. He said: Recently one of the gentlemen said from behind this very podium that if there is criticism it is suffocating, and in my view it is not just for every sort of talk to be going on, while it is still said that one may not speak. Some gentlemen, who even have a revolutionary record, in publishing certain letters seek to undermine the government of the Islamic revolution, and they must be reprimanded. Do they view such activity as following velayat-e faqih [rule of the supreme jurisconsult]?

Mr. 'Ali 'Enayat also discussed the crisis in the Persian Gulf. He said: Aggression by any person in whatever form is condemned. Iraq's aggression and occupation of Kuwaiti soil and its overthrow of its government is like the aggression and occupation of Panama and the overthrow of its government. Governments of the world who cry for freedom and liberation, however, condemn the attack against Kuwait, but they ignore America's savage attack against Panama. What this means is that international laws and commitments in today's world have value so long as they are in the interest of these criminals. Why did no country condemn Iraq for starting the war before the Persian Gulf crisis? Now that their interests are threatened, they are regretting their bad behavior of the past concerning Iran. It is interesting that other countries are identifying the aggressor in the Iran-Iraq war when agreements have been reached between Iran and Iraq. It appears that some people want to create mischief to continue the differences between Iran and Iraq. We must say that the divine promises have been fulfilled, and nations that supported one another until yesterday are now at one another's throats, and are committing their crimes against each other. Oh God let the oppressor be busy with the oppressors [Arabic phrase]. The Islamic Republic stands firmly on the principle of supporting the oppressed, and the Kuwait that oppressed the Iranian nation until yesterday must now be supported when it is the oppressed, so that in this way we can overthrow the oppressors of yesterday. We will not accept a change of borders in the region at any price, and security in the region must be procured by the nations of the region around the locus of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which is the greatest and the most powerful nation in the Persian Gulf. If peace is to be maintained under the authority of Muslims in the Persian Gulf, the nations of the region must cooperate closely and carefully with Iran. They must take hold of the crisis that has appeared in the Persian Gulf and make their governments populist, because a government that does not have a popular base will be destroyed and obliterated by Iraq's assault, as Kuwait was in less than a few hours without the slightest resistance. Militarily America cannot strengthen governments such as the governments of King Fahd, King Husayn, and Mubarak. Who is to say that one day they will not threaten America and its allies in the area as the government of Iraq is doing? These governments must therefore realize that if they do not do something in the near future to establish among themselves a popular base, sooner or later they will be subjected to overwhelming destruction. All the governments of the world realize that the only government in the area with a popular base is the powerful government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which stood for eight years against the superpowers of the world and was finally victorious. The governments of the area must learn a lesson from Iran's resistance and they must establish a close and good relationship with the Islamic Republic of Iran to preserve themselves. It is proposed that the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran take the initiative to solve the Persian Gulf crisis. At the invitation of the nations caught in the conflict in the Persian Gulf area, and by proposing solutions and making suitable proposals, the Islamic Republic of Iran should solve the Persian Gulf crisis peacefully without intervention by other countries. Noting that the presence of foreign forces in the Islamic nations is a calamity for Muslim nations, he said:

One billion Muslims in the world will not tolerate the presence of foreign forces in the two sacred shrines, and their presence will be severely condemned.

In support of the National Security Council, Mr. 'Ali 'Enayat emphasized:

The National Security Council, which operates under the leadership of one of the true friends of his holiness the imam (peace be upon him), Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, and whose enactments, according to the Constitution, must be approved by the exalted leader, with its careful work has so far been able to achieve the demands of the noble nation of Iran, and it is hoped that God will help them to act with full awareness, to follow the activities of friends and enemies, and to make decisions that will protect the interests of the Muslim nation of Iran. I say to the noble nation of Iran that this council makes decisions in special crises that are out of the ordinary, and therefore a few people must not question the decisions of this council to get attention.

Elsewhere in his talk, the Khorramabad deputy discussed the successful work of the powerful government of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani. He said: In view of the work done in the past year by the government of Mr. Hashemi, which in addition to achieving a great political victory, anchoring inflation, increasing production, and activating industrial and production centers, has generated much hope of solving society's problems one after the other, the secret of all successes lies in staying close to God. Here it is necessary to mention that if those inside the Islamic Republic of Iran make it a practice to serve God, follow the guidance of the supreme jurisconsult, and stay close to God, just as Almighty God gave the great political victory to the nation of Iran, he will bestow his boundless mercy upon the Islamic nation of Iran. Fortunately the respected president of the republic is aware of all the nation's problems and difficulties. During his Friday prayer sermons, he has discussed basic problems such as the transportation problem and the shortage of construction materials, which are serious economic obstacles. If proposals and bills in this regard are submitted to the Majles by the government, God willing the Majles will be willing to cooperate in any way to pass those bills. Salaried government employees, especially those in education, are in great difficulty financially. It is hoped that, with cash and material assistance, and with the passage of a bill to increase government salaries, the problem of these people serving the Islamic Republic of Iran will be solved in such a way that it does not cause new inflation. Housing is one of the most basic necessities of life for a family. Help must be given for the production and procurement of needed construction materials and to create cooperative companies to build housing for the low-income people in society. Contrary to the slogans that are being given, priority is not being given to the expansion of universities, and there are many problems for the growth of the universities. It is hoped that the Majles, which so far has been in the forefront in solving the problems of the universities, will create suitable conditions for the growth and expansion of the nation's universities this time by increasing the budget for universities and by approving a financial and commercial bill, which is now on the Majles agenda as part of the University Trustees Council Bill. At the same time, in the past few days all the universities signed petitions asking the respected deputies to approve the financial and commercial bill for the University Trustees Council. God willing, this will be given attention. Special attention must be given to the problem of population growth and the necessity of controlling the nation's population, otherwise a very serious problem for the government and the nation will develop in the future. Population growth must be proportionate and coordinated with the growth of production, otherwise the people will get poorer every day.

Concerning the problems in his electoral district, he said: The failure to control surface water in the province of Lorestan has caused severe soil erosion in this province, and if serious and basic measures are not taken in this area, the verdant province of Lorestan will become a province where nothing grows. Because of the lack of sufficient resources to attract specialist manpower, this province is faced with a severe shortage of specialist and skilled manpower, and I hope that the respected officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran will travel to the forgotten province of Lorestan, which has become oppressed in every respect, and see this oppression first hand, and simply issue the necessary and appropriate orders to solve those problems. If we compare the resources of the province of Lorestan such as service, cultural, health care, and educational resources with those in the nation's other provinces, the province of Lorestan will be in last place, meaning number 24, among the nation's provinces, and this comparison shows the oppression and deprivation of the province of Lorestan. If a new province were to be created, certainly the province of Lorestan would be ranked after that province also, and this is despite the fact that it has mines, great reservoirs of water and soil, a suitable climate, and loyal people who have shown their sincere concern and support again and again for the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran by sending countless combatants and giving martyrs to their revolution, and as in the past they will continue to do so.

Hasan Aminlu, Shabestar Deputy

Mr. Aminlu, of the Shabestar electoral district, was the third and final pre-agenda speaker. He sent praise to the triumphant soul of the imam of the nation and the great leader, and the good souls of the martyrs of the imposed war, and he offered condolences on the death of the great source of emulation Ayatollah al-'Ozma Mar'ashi-Najafi.

He then discussed the great and passionate concern for Islam among the Muslim people of Azerbayjan in the course of recent events. He said:

This is illustrated by events in the past few months in Soviet Azerbayjan, especially the gathering of the oppressed people on the banks of the Aras River and the borders of Iran, and the holding of religious rites and ceremonies made every Muslim happy and sure of the extent to which these people believe in Islam and religion. Their zeal for the Koran and religious books, and the efforts of these lovers to obtain photos of His Holiness the Imam and the exalted leader created and is creating scenes on the borders that leave no doubt of any kind of the fact that the people of Soviet Azerbayjan are thirsty for Islam, and they look to the land of Iran, which has an Islamic government, as a sacred place, and they see their own lost identity in the lap of Islam and the land of Iran.

He then discussed the plot to change the script of Soviet Azerbayjan to the Latin alphabet. He said: Despite all this cultural background for the Islamic alphabet, there are persistent plots by imperialists to make the Latin alphabet the official alphabet for this language. In this regard, there is extensive propaganda by the media, especially the media inside and outside the borders. For example, a seminar is being formed in Turkey which is preparing the atmosphere to convert to the Latin alphabet. We hear that in order to prepare the people they are using baseless reasoning and justifications. For example, they are spreading the rumor that the Islamic alphabet is not suitable for conveying scientific material, as if they have forgotten that when Europe was in the fires of ignorance, and they were writing like donkeys in this same Latin alphabet, the most complicated scientific things were being written in the Islamic alphabet, and the libraries of the world are now filled with books written in the Islamic alphabet and filled with complex scientific material. If changing the alphabet could make everyone in the world a technocrat, Turkey ought to be the cradle of science and technology, and the poor Japanese, who ignored this and did not change their alphabet, ought to be in full scientific and technological decline, writing and figuring with sticks, traveling on four-footed animals, and if you look, in practice precisely the opposite is true; the Japanese, whose alphabet is one of the most complex, have kept it as a cultural root, and they have also stolen the lead in the area of science and technology. Clearly world imperialism is itself striving to separate Muslim society from one of the chief emotional connections to Islam and the Koran by changing the alphabet, to dry up one of the main cultural roots of a nation and alienate it from its identity.

While thanking the Muslim people of Soviet Azerbayjan for their unstinting aid to the earthquake-stricken brothers of Iran, he addressed the government leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the recent plot to change the alphabet. He said:

By establishing relations with insiders and making extensive propaganda, and creating a seminar for this purpose, the government of Turkey is trying hard to achieve this. Therefore, it is advisable for the leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran to make efforts in this area in whatever way required, and take the necessary steps. They must accept it as fact that the people of Soviet Azerbayjan, because of their cultural ties, have a suitable background to accept the Islamic alphabet, and secondly the acceptance of the Islamic alphabet will be effective in spreading Islam, not only in Soviet Azerbayjan, but in the other republics, and this phenomenon is one of the highest values in the aspirations of the Islamic revolution of Iran, to spread Islam throughout the world and especially among those who are religiously and culturally dependent.

In conclusion, the speaker gave the following memos to the appropriate officials:

1. To the respected government, give attention to the villages of East Azarbaijan damaged by the earthquake.

2. While thanking the respected president of the republic for increasing the province's budget for development and building schools, he requested the allocation of a separate share for school building in the provinces.

3. Memo to the minister of housing and urban development and the minister of health and treatment, concerning more serious implementation of projects and programs.

4. Memo to the Tehran mayor's office concerning the installation of trash cans in the city of Tehran.

Detailed Proceedings

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's public Majles session was the bill to divide responsibilities between the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad, of which Article One and its notes were approved by the deputies.

Article One: As of the date of this law's enactment, the responsibilities of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad are divided as follows: All affairs pertaining to the cultivation of water and soil on farms and by the seven-person councils are the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, and affairs pertaining to preserving, revitalizing, expanding, and utilizing natural resources (forests, pastures, fisheries, and aquatic farming), all livestock-keeping, poultry farming, rural development, and improvement of rural industries are the responsibility of the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad.

Note One: All responsibilities and prerogatives of the relevant ministries are within the limits of the duties designated in this law, along with the relevant commitments, credits, resources, equipment, and workers, to be assigned as indicated to the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad within a period no greater than six months. The affiliated companies and institutions will be affiliated to the above ministries in accordance with the division of responsibilities.

Note Two: The coordinating guidelines will be prepared by the National Administrative and Employment Affairs Organization, with the cooperation of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad, and approved by the council of ministers as appropriate to explain the detailed responsibilities of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad based on the provisions of this law.

Note Three: The government is authorized within six months of the passage of this bill to consolidate and dissolve the institutions and companies affiliated with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad, or to transfer their responsibilities to the staff precincts of the aforementioned ministries, and to approve a charter for each one.

Note Four: Within six months the Ministry of Agriculture must draw up its administrative, financial, organizational, and employment regulations in view of the regulations being implemented in the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad, and after they are approved by the National Administrative and Employment Affairs Organization, it must send them to the Council of Ministers for approval.

Note Five: Workers transferred either to the Ministry of Agriculture or the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad will be subject to the administrative and financial regulations of the organization to which they are transferred, and the application of the employment conditions of the workers transferred from the Ministry of Agriculture or the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad to another ministry will be done based on the guidelines prepared jointly by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad, and the National Administrative and Employment Affairs Organization, and approved by the Council of Ministers.

Note Six: All the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad's responsibilities and prerogatives in health and treatment affairs, with all the credit and financial resources and commitments, will be transferred separately and unaltered from the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad to the Ministry of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education, and the regional health care and treatment organizations in the provinces will be transferred.

Note Seven: All laws and regulations not in conformity with this law are void, and all other existing duties and prerogatives of the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad and the Ministry of Agriculture remain in force as before.

Note Eight: Within no more than six months, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad must change their ministry organizations and plan and act in such a way that each of these aforementioned ministries has no more than one general office in each province, no more than one office in each municipality, no more than one representative's office in each district, and no more than one unit in each village.

The final item on the agenda was the report from the First Council of the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education concerning the bill on how to handle financial and trade affairs for the universities and institutions of research and higher learning, whose continued consideration was postponed to the next session.

The Majles will meet in public session tomorrow morning.

Pakistan

Prime Minister Views 'Plot' To Sabotage Elections

BK0210120190 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, has said the nation is fully prepared to defend its sovereignty, integrity, and ideology against external enemies as well as against those saboteurs who are acting within the country at their behest. He was talking to party workers immediately after arriving in Karachi from Nawabshah and (Nawashahro Feroz) District today. The prime minister said that the massing of troops on borders does not frighten us because our armed forces are vigilant and our people have faith in almighty Allah and are willing to make any sacrifice for the country. He said that the recently uncovered plot to sabotage the election process and cause disruption had local support from those who wanted to cover up their corruption and misdeeds. But no conspiracy or plot can save those responsible for looting and plundering from accountability before both the law and the people, he observed.

Mr. Jatoi declared unequivocally that the election would be held on schedule and 24 October would prove to be the day of judgment for those who enriched themselves at the expense of the poor people of Pakistan.

Yaqub Khan Meets Foreign Ministers in New York

BK0310094590 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has had meetings in New York with foreign ministers of China, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. They discussed Gulf crisis and its adverse impact on Pakistan's economy and that of other countries.

During his talks with the Chinese foreign minister, Mr. Qian Qichen, the Pakistani foreign minister said that President Ghulam Ishaq Khan's visit to China had been successful reflecting the warm and friendly relations between the two countries. The Saudi foreign minister, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, expressed his appreciation for the stand taken by Pakistan on the situation arising from Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Sahabazada Yaqub Khan briefed the Saudi foreign minister on the situation in occupied Kashmir. With the Bangladeshi foreign minister, Mr. Anisul Islam Mahmud, he exchanged views on possibility of Muslim countries of South and Southeast Asia contributing to a peaceful solution of the Gulf crisis. The Sri Lankan foreign minister, Mr. Harold Herath, sought Pakistan's help in evacuating Sri Lankan nationals from Kuwait.

Paper Details Bhutto Court Appearance, Defense

BK0210121590 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 1 Oct 90 pp 1, 6

[By Kamran Khan]

[Text] Karachi, Sept. 30—Former Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto launched legal defence against the references filed against her by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan Sunday when she appeared before a special tribunal with hundreds of emotional PPP [Pakistan People's Party] supporters jampacking the Sindh High Court building.

Former Attorney-General Yahya Bakhtiar, who was leading a team of lawyers to defend his leader, opened the arguments by making a blistering attack against President Ishaq's credibility and dubbed him as "the president of COP" [Combined Opposition Parties].

"Her father made a mistake by appointing Gen Ziaul Haq as the COAS [Chief of Army Staff] and she committed a mistake by backing him in the election for the President" said the elderly lawyer and added: "He is no more the President, his tenure has already expired."

Yahya Bakhtiar was assisted by Aitzaz Ahsan, Abdul Hafiz Lakho, Iqbal Hyder and Reza Rabbani, while the former Sindh Governor and respected jurist Fakhruddin G. Ibrahim was placed in between Ms. Bhutto and Yahya Bakhtiar to offer timely advice.

They appeared for Ms. Bhutto over the reference filed against her by the President for her decision to hire a particular consultant for Karachi Electric Supply Corporation (KESC) for a project to be built with the aid from the Asian Development Bank. The reference suggested that a loss of Rs. [rials] 100 million was caused due to this decision of the Prime Minister.

The merit of the reference could not be argued as Ms. Bhutto's lawyers had not been provided with its copy. It will come under some detailed argument when the state lawyers submit comprehensive arguments on the tribunal's next meeting on Oct. 10.

So crowded was the court room this afternoon that it was only in the final moments of today's 100-minute long proceedings that the presiding officer, Justice Wajeehuddin Ahmed, noticed that Ms Benazir Bhutto was also present in the court. It was when she stood-up smiling and slightly bowed before the judge.

Hundreds of PPP supporters occupying every inch of space in the court room and in the galleries of the Sindh High Court building shouted, "Jiye [Long Live] Bhutto" and "Wazeere Azam [Prime Minister] Benazir" as she made her entry into the room. The Party leader had to work extremely hard to keep the workers under control who raised full-throated slogans even in the presence of the presiding officer.

"We do not recognise the jurisdiction of these special courts and they cannot disqualify me from contesting the polls," said a composed and confident Ms. Bhutto while talking to reporters just before the proceedings began.

"I was not served with any notice or summons, but I have come today to demonstrate my respect for the law and courts," Ms Bhutto added while she charged that attempts were being made to put hurdles in her election campaign.

She alleged that a number of her party leaders have already been arrested by the caretaker administration and attempts were now being made to rig the polls. "Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has recently got 20,000 ID [identification] cards made to be used on the polling day," she alleged.

Ms. Bhutto also said that she wanted a live telecast of her interview with independent journalists.

From the outset of his discourse before the tribunal Ms. Bhutto's attorney Yahya Bakhtiar made it clear that he does not recognise the jurisdiction of the special courts and the constitution of these courts was with malafide intentions.

He sought to answer and counter the charge-sheet read out by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan on Aug 6. Why did he refer to the CCI [Council of Common Interests] when the matter was pending in the Supreme Court of Pakistan? Why did he made remarks about Ehsanul Haq Piracha case when the Supreme Court decision was still awaited? What was he doing when the CCI meeting was not called in the past 11 years?

He also questioned as to why the people who had been identified as the sponsors of Narco-trade from Pakistan reached the position of authority and have now regained their position.

"The General and the Governor who was allegedly involved in narcotic smuggling was sent to the United States to negotiate poppy substitution programmes in his province," he said and added, the son of the other Governor was caught smuggling heroin into United States and when the father tried to go to America to help the son he was told by the U.S. authorities that he himself was involved in the case and could face arrest on arrival in the States.

Without naming President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Mr. Bakhtiar further alleged, "The son-in-law of the top man of the country was arrested in the States on charges of drug smuggling and later he was exchanged with a very notorious person wanted by the U.S. authorities."

Ms. Bhutto's attorney also asked the court to determine as to who was the referring authority for this reference describing the present situation as vague. "We should know if this reference was made directly by the President in his discretion," he asked.

The main thrust of today's discourse by Mr Bakhtiar was the personality of the President as he punctuated his arguments by making strong remarks against him (Mr. Ishaq).

He, however, stressed that the proceedings of the tribunal should be adjourned until Oct 24 as Ms. Bhutto had a very hectic election schedule and it would be extremely difficult for her to make regular appearances in the tribunals in Karachi and Lahore.

Justice Wajeehuddin Ahmed, however, repeatedly emphasised that his prime task was to give justice and in no way he would try to disturb Ms. Bhutto's campaign and noted that she need not be present in the court, unless she herself desired, once she declared before the court that the charges against her were false.

He also told Mr. Bakhtiar that he had all the liberty to say whatever he felt like about the court or any individual. "It doesn't make any difference for me if the charges have been filed by the President against the former Prime Minister," he observed.

He also changed the date of the next hearing from Oct 8 to Oct 10 when Ms. Bhutto's attorneys informed that she would be out of town on that date.

Today's hearing besides a large number of PPP workers and leaders also attracted a dozen of national and international reporters. Dozens of lawyers also observed today's proceedings.

Also present in the court was Ms. Ellen Shippy, the Deputy Consul General of the United States Consulate in Karachi. She and other officials of the U.S. Consulate remained present throughout the proceedings.

The referring authority was represented by senior counsel Mr. Kamal Mustafa Bakhari while Sindh Province was represented by advocate general Mr. Aftab Akhund.

Yahya Bakhtiar said that by filing references a discrimination has been showed to PPP because such references have not been filed against anyone else. He said those who have been in the IJI and Combined Opposition Parties were not angels.

Yahya Bakhtiar pointed out that while the hearing of the references was in process, wide publicity was being given to the charges against the respondent in newspapers and radio and television on the occasion of each hearing.

The court made it clear that in consonance with the established rules of justice, the respondent is being and will be treated innocent of the charges against her until and unless these are proved.

The court pointed out that the moment the respondent makes a statement that the charges are false, the burden to prove the allegations will be on the referring authority.

On the request of the counsel for the respondent for having an access to the record and relevant documents of the references to make appropriate rebuttal to assertions in the references, the court granted the same and asked the counsels for the referring authority to make available all the record to the respondent or any of her counsel.

Yahya Bakhtiar wanted a positive statement to the effect whether the referring authority has been filing these references in his discretion and powers or on the advice of the Prime Minister and his cabinet.

The court directed the counsel for the referring authority to make a positive statement in this regard and also argue this legal question as well.

Bhutto Supporters Storm Lahore High Court

Interrupt Proceedings

BK0210122190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1149 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Lahore, Pakistan, Oct 2 (AFP)—Thousands of supporters of ousted Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto stormed the Lahore High Court on Tuesday, blocking the building, breaking through the gates and occupying a judge's chambers.

Carrying large portraits of the ousted premier, members of Ms. Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP), shouted "Benazir is innocent" and blocked the main road, forcing police to divert traffic, witnesses said.

A crowd numbering up to 10,000 also gathered in front of the court building, where they chanted slogans and waved placards calling President Ghulam Ishaq Khan "a dog."

Ignoring a strong police presence, many climbed the walls and entered the court where they occupied the judge's chambers and the courtroom where Ms. Bhutto was due to appear. She was summoned before Justice Rashid Aziz Khan to answer charges of misconduct during her 20-month government.

Party sources said Ms. Bhutto was taken to a room adjacent to the court, but she could not reach the judge because of the crowd. Her lawyers pleaded on her behalf, former Interior Minister Aitzaz Ahsan told reporters.

The judge adjourned the procedings until October 9, when Ms. Bhutto is due to appear before another judge.

Work in other courts had to be suspended due to the slogan chanting. [passage omitted]

Bhutto Nearly Faints

BK0210143890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1405 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Lahore, Pakistan, Oct 2 (AFP)—Ousted Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto nearly fainted Tuesday as thousands of her supporters thronged the Lahore High Court building during her appearance on charges of misconduct, party sources said. Ms. Bhutto was exhausted and "she almost fainted," one of her lawyers said. It took her about 10 minutes to recover. "My safety is your responsibility," she warned the registrar of the court.

The crowd broke open iron gates of the Lahore High Court building and packed the special judge's room where Ms. Bhutto was to have appeared in an open proceeding on a land scandal case. Party sources said the crowd wanted to hear the court's arguments. Several people did faint. Others, including journalists, received bruises in the push to occupy the courtroom. Sources said the gathering was unprecedented.

Ms. Bhutto was unable to reach Justice Rashid Aziz Khan because of the crowd and remained in a room adjacent to the court. Her lawyers entered her plea for her, former Interior Minister Aitezaz Ahsan told reporters. After hearing her lawyers, the judge adjourned the proceedings until October 9, when she is to appear in another case before the same judge.

Ms. Bhutto's supporters, members of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), carried large portraits of her and shouted "Benazir is innocent." They had blocked the main road and caused traffic to be diverted. Party sources said about 10,000 others thronged the mogul-built red stone building. [passage omitted]

Ms. Bhutto, who is charged in four cases, appeared Sunday in a special court in Karachi to challenge its jurisdiction. Calling the prosecution one-sided she said the move was aimed at sabotaging her campaign. Work in other courts was suspended due to slogan chanting by Bhutto supporters. They also hurled abuses on Mr. Ishaq Khan for sacking her.

The 75-year old president has been avoiding a direct reply to Ms. Bhutto's counter accusations. "Why should I reply," he said. "I have all the proofs so it is natural that they will attack me."

Mr. Ahsan denied that the party high command had given instructions to stage a demonstration. Calling it a stage show, he claimed that 200 commandos in plain clothes were brought by the government "to give the impression that the PPP does not respect the decorum of the courts." About the activists occupying the court, he said the rival government in Punjab wanted "to tarnish the PPP image," Mr. Ahsan said.

Ishaq Khan Condemns Incident

BK0310120990 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] The president, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has condemned yesterday's incident of lawlessness and hooliganism in the Lahore High Court premises. He was talking to newsmen in Islamabad today after inaugurating the national Sirat [the prophet's life] conference in connection with Id Milad al-Nabi [prophet's birthday], peace be upon him, being celebrated today.

The president said the incident was the worst example of irresponsible attitude and violence in politics and unique in history of the country. He was of the view that through such methods some people might be trying to escape the legal process of accountability. He warned that the arm of law was long and no one could escape accountability in this way. He recalled that those involved in the incident while claiming to be champions of democracy did not show much respect to the highest constitutional institutions like the judiciary when they were in power. The president deplored the tendency toward pressure tactics and cautioned that era of such politics is over. People are aware of what happened during the past 20 months. They cannot achieve their objectives through threats, cheating and blackmailing. The government and its institutions could not be frightened or bullied through such methods. He assured that justice would be done to everyone.

Bhutto Demands Ishaq Khan Resignation

BK0310084090 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 2 Oct 90 pp 1, 6

[By Mujtaba Akhter]

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 1—Benazir Bhutto, ex-Prime Minister and PPP [Pakistan People's Party] Co-Chairperson, today asked President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to resign from his office as he is no longer an impartial figure.

"Does a highly respected office permit its holder to side with a party," she required from pressmen who turned up at the airport to cover her engagements.

Since the government has failed to substantiate charges against her and her colleagues in the court, she has reason to demand Ishaq Khan resignation, she told a reporter.

President Ishaq, she said, had converted the President House into "IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] headquarter". The President, she said, acts as if he is more a COP [Combined Opposition Parties] leader, than a President. Such an attitude, she said, has no moral or constitutional justification.

Earlier she was given a warm welcome upon her arrival at Islamabad airport from Karachi. The area around the VIP lounge was swarming with PPP workers who chanted "long live" Bhutto slogans.

She later led a motorcade procession to Kahuta, some 20 kilometres from Islamabad. In a brief speech which she delivered from her Pajero jeep, the ex-Prime Minister described the assembly dissolution as an 'ugly move'. She has no regret of her removal, as the most serious thing was the dissolution of assemblies. It was not she who was hurt by dissolution, she said, but it were the people of Pakistan who were hit the hardest. A single individual, she said, must not be allowed to disrupt the democratic process. She said if she came to power again, no President would ever dare to remove her. President Ishaq, she said, would prove to be the last President to have dissolved elected assemblies.

She spoke of her government's achievements saying during her 20-month rule she won international support for Kashmir. Her government also made a successful deal with China for two power plants, which was a record, she said. She specifically mentioned her deep commitment to the armed forces, which took her to Siachen, a place where no IJI leader had gone.

Referring to the IJI, she said, it neither had manifesto nor any plan. Its sole mission was her removal. Let me tell them all that their dream of voting me out will never come true. IJI leaders had no unified stand on Kashmir, Afghan issue and Kalabagh dam. They freed G.M. Syed only to win votes in Sindh. But it will not work, she said.

Benazir Bhutto addressed about half a dozen brief meetings on her way to Jhelum in her speeches. She harshly criticised President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, asking people to remove him from office.

Enthusiastic crowds throughout her journey kept on chanting pro- Bhutto slogans. The G.T. road was tastefully decorated with big PPP flags, banners and Bhutto's photos.

Ansar Mahmood Bhatti from Lalamusa adds: Addressing big rallies at Sarai Alamgir, Kharian and Lalamusa, Ms Bhutto said sacrifices of the patriotic workers of the PPP for the restoration of democracy would not go wasted and the party would soon be in power again. She also addressed people at Zahoor Ellahi Stadium Gujrat.

Ms Benazir Bhutto said that terrorism and politics could not go together so it was essential to eliminate terrorism from politics to protect the lives and honour of the common man. She accused the MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] of introducing gun culture in politics and pitting people against each other.

"At first they started quarreling with Jamaat-e-Islami, then with JUP [Jamiat-i-Ulama-i-Pakistan] Sindhis, Punjabis, Pukhtoons and Balochs and now they have started killing the people who dissent from them even from among the Urdu-speaking", she blamted.

She described the MQM as terrorists and said that they did not allow any faction of the society to live in peace and harmony.

Referring to the allegations levelled by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan against her and other PPP leaders, she said, the people of Pakistan would give the answer on October 24, as they were the best judge of the deeds and misdeeds of a political party. She also strongly criticised the Presidential order regarding the dissolution of the National Assembly and claimed that the order was issued with ulterior motives and grounds contained in it did not justify the action.

Ms Benazir recalled that those who broke the country and destroyed democracy in Pakistan were called saints, and those who plundered the country had not been called by the courts. She recalled that the five Prime Ministers were dismissed during the last 43 years in Pakistan, while one of them was executed.

She was also critical about government controlled medias, which were busy in adverse propaganda and accused the caretakers of trying to poison the minds of the people against the PPP through electronic media.

But she was optimistic that the people of Pakistan were politically conscious and could not he misled through adverse propaganda.

She lauded the Peshawar High Court decision of restoring the NWFP [North West Frontier Province] Assembly and said the PPP had won a legal and constitutional battle. She was doubtful, that the caretaker government would hold fair elections on Oct. 24, as announced by the President. "I ask why my government was dismissed without any solid reason, and how they could desire to see PPP once again in power, after the elections". Nevertheless, she hoped that if elections were held, PPP will get a landslide victory and will come to power with even greater strength.

She said that PDA [People's Democratic Alliance] was determined to have a one to one contest with its opponents despite a conspiracy to keep it out of the polls and damage the process of democracy in the country.

It may be mentioned here that an overloaded bus; which was carrying the enthusiastic stalwarts of the PPP skidded off and rammed into a tree. Most of the people in it were seriously injured. A person, Fazal Hussain of Gurjat was in critical condition. It has not been confirmed as to how many died in this accident at the time of the filing of this story.

Delhi Reports Assassination Attempt on Bhutto

BK0210162390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] In Pakistan, former prime ministers Ms. Benazir Bhutto and Mr. Junejo, and the caretaker prime minister, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, figured in the final list of contesting candidates released by the Election Commission today. Our Islamabad correspondent, Suresh Chopra, reports that over 1,400 candidates are in the fray for 217 National Assembly seats. The elections are scheduled to be held on the 24th of this month. Our correspondent adds that Ms. Bhutto escaped an assassination attempt last night at Gujar Khan in Punjab Province. A young man aimed a loaded pistol at her at point blank range, but was apprehended by her party workers.

Editorial Criticizes Ouster of Peshawar Judge

BK0310102090 Lahore THE NATION in English 2 Oct 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Ouster Of a Judge"]

[Text] The decision not to regularise the appointment of Peshawar High Court Judge, Qazi Jamil, though perhaps in order, could create an impression of victimisation. Justice Qazi Jamil, an ad hoc judge of the Peshawar High Court, was one of the five judges, who accepted the petition of Mr Aftab Sherpao against the dissolution of the NWFP [North-West Frontier Province] Assembly by the Governor of NWFP. The decision sent a shock wave throughout the country and greatly embarrassed the powers that be. The Supreme Court has not yet set it aside and only granted a stay against its execution. The constitutional position is that the High Court judges are appointed by the President after consulting the Chief Justice of Pakistan, the Governor concerned and the Chief Justice of the High Court. Whether or not to go through all these formalities is also necessary at the time of regularisation of a judge's appointment, one surmises it is within the discretion of the President. It is precisely for this reason that the non-renewal of appointment of a judge, who has turned a verdict against the government, will cause suspicion in the public mind.

One knows, of course, that personal umbrage of the Governor or the President may not have influenced at all the decision not to regularise the appointment of Qazi Jamil and there were perhaps other weighty reasons for doing so. But how would the people know? The President does not have to explain why he did it and he has not. One would not normally have taken notice of a decision which prima facie is of a purely administrative nature. But its timing has lent it a colour which would have otherwise not been there. Without prejudice to the merits of President's discretion, therefore, one cannot help wishing that he had not given a handle to his critics who keep alleging all sorts of motives to him. Because of the large number of cases of a political and constitutional nature already pending in various superior courts, the administration would be well advised to keep a low profile and while taking decisions of a sensitive nature, especially regarding the judiciary, appears to be even-handed.

Army Chief's Assurance on Elections Welcomed

BK0210004490 Lahore THE NATION in English 1 Oct 90 p8

[Editorial: "General Beg's Assurance"]

[Text] Now that we have it straight from the horse's mouth the spectre of Martial Law should no longer haunt the politicians, particularly the ones who have a stake in the coming elections. A statement of honourable intentions by the Chief of the Army Staff, under the circumstances, all the same signifies that 'all is well' on the political scene. The mist of uncertainty shrouding the electoral process had grown so thick that visibility beyond October 24 was surely hazy, where as many 'ifs and buts' made the earlier passage an unpredictable scenario. General Mirza Aslam Beg has termed rumours about imposition of Martial Law as 'totally fabricated' and part of 'disinformation campaign by anti-state elements' and has reaffirmed that elections will be held according to the schedule announced by the government. Such an assurance by the COAS [Chief of Army Staff) would not have been called for in a country where democracy has taken roots and political institutions have been functioning unimpaired.

In a democratic system, the Army's subordination to the civilian authority is taken for granted, regardless of how badly the affairs of the state are being run by the elected representatives. But given the chequered history of democracy in this country where Martial Law has been the law of the land for more years than the tenure of the elected governments, it is not surprising if a political crisis gives rise to apprehensions about the collapse of the democratic system. Rumours of 'Martial Law in the offing' is a recurring phenomenon and a sad reflection on the credibility of the country's democratic institutions. Anyhow General Beg's timely intervention should deter the skeptics from predicting a doomsday scenario for democracy and give the potential aspirants for power the heart to play the elction gamble. But it should also put some fear of God in the hearts of feuding politicians to set their house in order. Had they played their roles according to democratic rules of the game, they would not have suffered the indignity of securing safeguards for democracy from the Chief of the Army Staff.

THE MUSLIM Critical

BK0310104590 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Oct 90 p 4

[Editorial: "The Indian Threat"]

[Text] Although the situation on our border with India as also across the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir has remained far from satisfactory for many months now, the remaks made by General Beg in this regard in the course of his talk with the Chief Election Commissioner in Rawalpindi on Monday bring out the gravity of threat to national security as never before in the prolonged military stand-off. The Chief of Pakistan Army Staff has also disclosed the discovery of what he has described as "an extremely dangerous plot" aimed at creating "a grim law and order situation" in the country. General Beg is correct in pointing out the "dangerously sinister" timing of these developments in the context of the accelerated political activity in Pakistan due to the current electoral process. With reference to the latter aspect, General Beg has sounded his strongest resolve yet in the given uncertain political climate of the country, of ensuring that elections are held as scheduled.

Disruption of Pakistan's stability, especially in view of New Delhi's heightening despair at its inability to crush the Intifadah in occupied Kashmir, has become a prime concern of the current Indian leadership. The past few days have also mounted pressure on Mr. V.P. Singh's minority government from both within the ruling coalition and the opposition parties. It would thus not be surprising in the least if the beleagured Indian premier were to consider it expedient to externalise the difficult home situation through an aggressive move against Pakistan. The Indian leadership could also feel encouraged to go for an adventure against this country by the world's preoccupation with the Gulf crisis.

At the same time, the scenario has thrown up some very discomforting questions about our Establishment's approach to the national security environment getting all the more precarious by the day. Unless the caretaker Prime Minister chooses to dismiss the Army Chief of Staff's description of the twin threats to the nation—much as he considered it proper to give a clean chit to Ambassador Oakley on the question of his interference in Pakistan's internal affairs—Mr Jatoi must explain his conduct in office on a number of counts. From the induction of individuals with known sympathies for India at positions of high governmental responsibility at both the Federal and the provincial levels, to the release from prison of diehard Indophiles and secessionists, to the despatch of a private courier to New Delhi for purposes which remain far from clear—none of the moves can help bolster national defence.

Editorial Views Iran Minister UN Speech on Gulf

BK2909140290 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 29 Sep 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Whither Islamic Revolution"]

[Text] Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati's address before the current United Nations General Assembly session Monday provided some valuable insights into Tehran's policy and approach towards major political and economic issues facing the world today. The speech was especially significant in view of the pivotal role ascribed to Iran vis-a-vis the Gulf crisis by even such avowed adversaries of the Islamic Revolution, till yesterday, as the United States of America. By virtue of the same fact, perhaps, the incumbent Iranian leadership has considered it expedient to project a more acceptable front to the Western powers in general and to Washington in particular. It must, nevertheless, have been more than a bit surprising for friends of the Revolution in Muslim societies the world over to hear Mr. Velayati laud, albeit by implication, the position adopted in unison by the Western powers in the Security Council to enforce sanctions against Iraq consequent to its invasion of Kuwait.

The Iranian Foreign Minister started off in this context by highlighting the contrast between the attitude of the Security Council following his country's invasion by Iraq in 1980 and the quick response of the same Security Council to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait last month. Nobody would dispute that Mr. Velayati had a point there. But surely, the Foreign Minister of a revolutionary Iran would know know better than to see in the latter instance a genuine change of heart by the Western powers with regard to excesses committed against Muslim countries in particular. That Mr. Velayati failed to elucidate the rationale of the white club's new found consensus in moving against Iraq with such alacrity, in an otherwise rather elaborate address at the General Assembly, is bound to raise apprehensions in many minds about the extent to which the pragmatic post-Khomeyni Iranian leadership is willing to go in order to make the Revolution acceptable to the West.

Such apprehensions would have been further augmented by Mr. Velayati's selectivity in opposing only the prospect of a long-term stay of the U.S. and other Western forces in and around the Arabian peninsula. Tehran should not require any reminding that the phenomenal Islamic reassertion, of which only a very small proportion has yet come to light in the wake of the massive Western troop presence on the Holy Land, has been set in motion all over the Muslim world in the present era most compellingly by nothing else but the Iranian Revolution's promise of emancipation. Tehran cannot shy away from the historic responsibility it shoulders in that regard.

Impact of Crisis on Third World Economy Viewed

BK0210152690 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Omar Latif Commentary]

[Text] The Gulf crisis has thrown economies of a large number of countries into deep distress. Among them, the developing nations with fragile base of economy have been suffering heavily. Pakistan is placed among the 10 most affected countries. Increase in petroleum and its product prices have placed extra strain of $600 million on balance of payments position of Pakistan. Further, remittances from expatriates would come down by $300 million. Trade with Iraq and Kuwait have come to a standstill and, as a result, export earnings would drop by about $300 million.

All combined, balance of payments position is to suffer by at least $1.2 billion. With foreign trade deficit, now persitent for quite some time, further erosion in it has created extra-difficult situation. Pakistan is in the midst of administration of structural adjustments. [words indistinct due to break in transmission] Rigorous steps undertaken to curtail budgetary and foreign trade deficit have created considerable difficulties for the common man. In the wake of implementing the aid through preconditionality, cost of living has gone up.

Being in the throes of all this, flareup of Gulf crisis has created an alarming situation. Hence, Pakistan proposed emergency measures at the recently-held meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund [IMF] in Washington for organizing a speedy and concessional assistance program for the countries most affected by the Gulf situation. Without immediate support it would be impossible for countries like Pakistan to overcome the shock. With foreign debts of about $16 billion, more contracting of debts is not a solution for Pakistan. More borrowing would only provide temporary relief and its adverse effect would be long-term.

Debts already contracted need a review, especially the interest rates of such loans. In certain cases, Pakistan's interest payments have been more than repayment of the principal. Similarly with this trend, more debts would compound the already problematic situation now prevailing. A special subsidy assistance is called for lowering the cost of IMF-sponsored financial assistance. Besides, the rates of lending and the conditionalities of assistance need to be rationalized so that these could be suitable for adoption and improving the objectives of such assistance. Compensatory and contingency planning since the [word indistinct] require different treatment than the normal developmental assistance program. Without introduction of greater flexibility in contingencies asssitance, the purpose would not be served better.

The Gulf crisis has created a great increase in the prices of crude and petroleum products. This exceptional burden demands exceptional treatment. For the countries worst hit by this phenomenon, assistance by a liberalized under a separate program which may be viewed and known as oil window. [sentence as heard] For the next three years, assistance [should] be specially designed having better terms of borrowing so as to finance the extra burden created by oil price hike.

Apart from an emergency program of assistance to explicate the most hurt countries of the Gulf crisis, a long-term program for rehabilitation of debt-laden economies is prerequisite to ensure the development and [words indistinct] for the future. At present, their debt servicing burden exceeds their capacity to earn more foreign exchange. As such, debts continue to increase rather than experiencing a steady decline. Ultimately, the situation hampers the development and spurns growth of the economy. Developing countries like Pakistan cannot afford to reach a situation where their all economic efforts would be consumed in paying of interest on debt. This critical situation has already been reached by several developing nations and others would join it due to the Gulf crisis. A raw-deal dealing to thrash out the problem would not serve the purpose.

Pakistan's proposals mooted at the World Bank deserved serious consideration, and the report of the finance minister, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, who yesterday returned home after attending the IMF meeting at Washington, shows that Pakistan's viewpoint has been sympathetically listened to.

Paper Criticizes Lobby Against U.S. Aid Package

BK0310103390 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 3 Oct 90 pp 6, 8

[Editorial: "Jewish lobby again"]

[Text] It was in 1987 that a 4.02 billion US aid package for Pakistan was approved. However, the release of funds has been on a year-to-year basis and only after certification by the US President that Pakistan's nuclear programme is not aimed at developing nuclear weapons. The US administration had recommended 578 million dollars in aid to Pakistan for the year 1991 and it has been approved by the Congressional House Appropriations Sub-Committee on Foreign Operations. It has also waived the Symington Amendment for one year which conditioned stoppage of US aid to a country on an actual detonation of a nuclear device.

As the date of our general elections draws closer news is trickling in that there still may be some impediments in the release of US aid to Pakistan. Under the Pressler Amendment, the US President is required to certify every year in October that Pakistan does not possess a nuclear device and that US assistance will reduce the risk of its acquiring such a device. The US President is said to be still making up his mind whether to issue such a certificate [at] all because of the active Indo-Jewish lobby in the United States and its over-active leader, Stephen J. Solarz, who also happens to be Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee on Asian and Pacific Affairs. He is the one who is called "an influential law maker on the issue of aid to Pakistan". With India and Israel having escaped the prohibition of the Symington Amendment, Congressman Solarz has been raising the bogey of a Pakistani atomic bomb. He has urged the US President to stop all assistance to Pakistan and demanded that it curtail its nuclear programme. Incidentally, Solarz is the same person who was awarded a high civil award by the previous government. He cannot be unaware of what India is doing in the field of nuclear research yet he has deemed it fit to make Pakistan his target of attack. The reasons are obvious. He totally fails to take note of the repeated assurances of Pakistan that its nuclear programme is only for peaceful purposes and that it advocates a nuclear weapon-free zone for South Asia. A country secretly making nuclear weapons would certainly not make the kind of proposals Pakistan has done to exorcise the nuclear ghost from the region. The Chairman of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission said at the 32nd IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] session in Vienna: "The region of South Asia which represents one-fifth of the human race is so beset with poverty and nderdevelopment that we cannot afford to commit our precious and limited economic resources in the pursuit of nuclear weaponry and its delivery system." Our position is crystal clear but Mr. Solarz in his brazen partisanship continues to target Pakistan only, deliberately turning a blind eye to India's own highly suspicious nuclear activities. A word is also necessary here about the indiscreet and loose remarks frequently made by some members of our scientific establishment. They only serve as grist to the enemy's propaganda mill. It is important that persons in responsible positions exercise greater care in making comments on Pakistan's nuclear programme.

Sri Lanka

Iraqi Envoy Chastised on Recruitment of Citizens

BK0210120490 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has dissociated itself completely from the references made by the ambassador of Iraq in Sri Lanka on Iraq's plans to recruit Sri Lankans. This was reported in the SUNDAY OBSERVER. The Iraqi ambassador was summoned to the Foreign Office and informed that he had violated the third country rule in that he used the media to attack a friendly country, and by implication associated the people of Sri Lanka in his assertions. He has been advised against repetitions of this nature. He has undertaken not to be in breach of a third country rule in the future. He had alleged that he was misquoted and that he had received letters from over a thousand volunteers supporting Iraq. The Iraqi ambassador has been advised that the Government of Sri Lanka will not permit its nationals to proceed to Iraq as claimed by him. He has also agreed not to issue visas to such persons.

Saudi Arabia Agrees to Flights for Nationals

BK0210134090 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Saudi Arabia has agreed to operate special flights to Sri Lanka carrying refugees from Kuwait who are now stranded in Riyadh. This follows a special request made to Saudia [airlines] by our ambassador in Riyadh, A.A. Kader Markar. The first such flight carrying 414 Sri Lankans, mainly housemaids from Kuwait, will arrive today. Mr. Markar assured the minister of state for Muslim religious and cultural affairs, A.H.M. Azhar, in a telephone conversation that Saudia would operate special flights when the total number of refugees reach 400. [sentence as heard] These flights are free of charge. Our ambassador has also informed the minister that he has expressed his deep gratitude and appreciation to King Fahd and the Saudi Government on behalf of President Premadasa and the people of Sri Lanka for this gesture of goodwill shown toward the Sri Lankans.

Three hundred and eighteen passengers arrived at Katunayaka yesterday on a flight operated under the accelerated program to repatriate stranded Sri Lankans in the Middle East. According to the ministry of foreign affairs, a flight financed by the International Organization for Migration [IOM] also arrived in Colombo bringing in 178 persons. Two more flights financed by IOM were due in Katunayaka yesterday bringing in 364 passengers.